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# MAD

APRIL 2009

NUMBER 499

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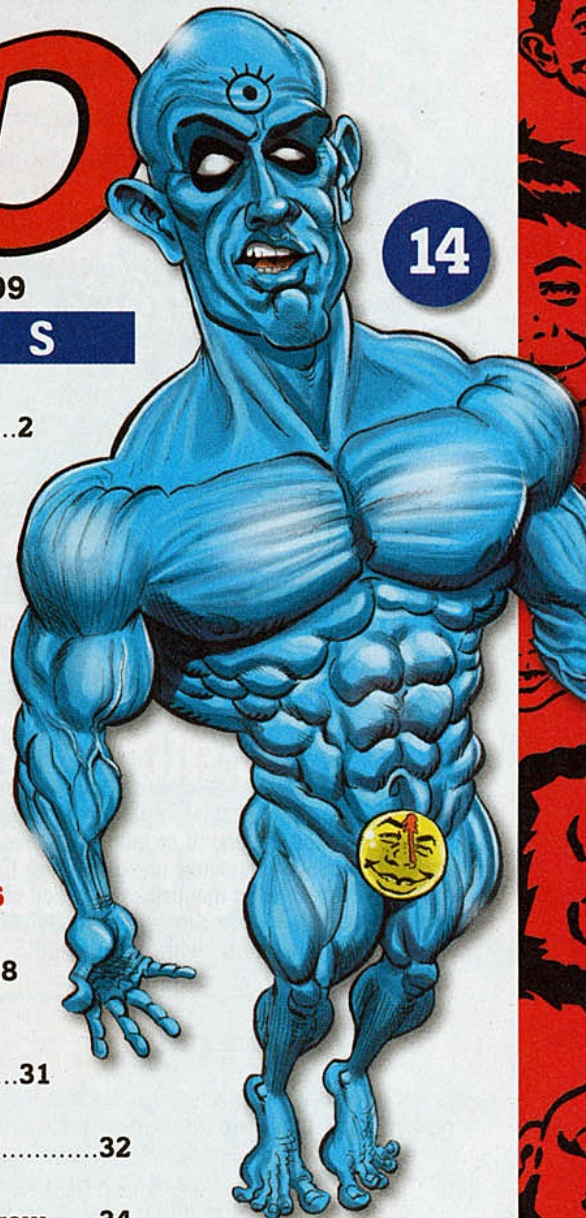
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COVER ARTIST:  
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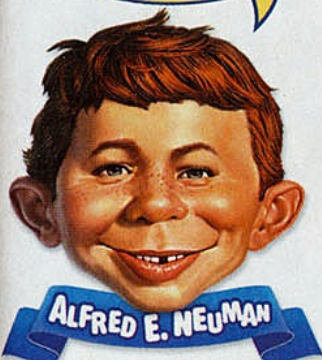
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Hybrid SUV's  
are like adult diapers -  
they don't really solve any-  
thing, but they make people  
feel better about the  
mess they're making!



ALFRED E. NEUMAN



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## SCHOOL OF HARD MOCKS

I got rejected yesterday from Stanford University, and it's your fault. I have perfect grades, great standardized test scores, and credentials through the roof. I was shocked that I was not accepted. Then I remembered that in my application I listed MAD magazine as a publication that I enjoy. I'm positive that mistake is the reason I didn't get in. Thanks for ruining my future.

Liz Clark, Pittsburgh, PA

Come to the Clark Side — We felt so bad about your rejection that we called up the admissions office at Stanford to find out what went wrong. You'll be happy to know that it had nothing to do with MAD. They simply felt that you were under-qualified and completely unexceptional. Turns out they never even read the part about what magazines you read because they stopped looking at your application almost immediately! What a relief for us! Best of luck getting into a trade school! —Ed.



## THE BIG EASEL

I started reading MAD magazine back in the mid-sixties and after reading a recent issue, I discovered that my taste in humor has obviously not matured in the past 40 years. As an amateur artist I decided to try my hand at sculpting, and since MAD had such a strong influence on me in my formative years, I thought it only fitting to make my first sculpture of the MAD mascot, Alfred E. Neuman. I'm sending you a hand-painted copy in the hopes that it will adorn the walls of your headquarters and serve as an inspiration to the MAD personnel for generations to come, or you can just use it as a doorstop.

Chris DeMattia, Croton on Hudson, NY

Hit or Chris — Doorstop it is! If we could make a suggestion, the next time you try your hand at sculpting, try using BOTH hands instead! —Ed.



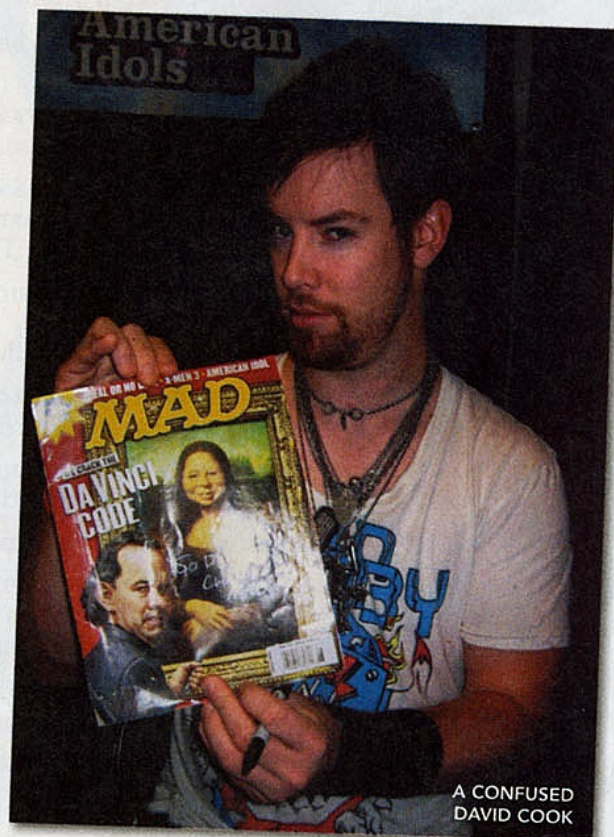
CHRIS AND HIS ALFRED HEAD

## MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

My dad got my family and I tickets and meet-and-greets to the *American Idol* tour in Atlantic City. I thought it would be perfect to ask the *American Idol* for a MAD Celebrity Snap. He was a bit confused — I don't think he knew what exactly I was getting the picture for. But he was very nice about it. MAD is the best there is and I am amazed how you've made fresh material for over 50 years.

Sam Share-Raab, Newtown, PA

Enter Sam-man — We know exactly how *American Idol* winner David Cook feels. We, too, are a bit confused — by his success! But we're being very nice about it. We're sure his career will skyrocket to the same level as Ruben Studdard! —Ed.



## THE FIGHTER SIDE OF...

Please stop publishing rewritten, colored editions of "The Lighter Side." You are destroying the comedy of Dave Berg and many childhood memories I have of laughing at the strip. Your new versions are not funny and are catering to the idiots that are America's youth today. Let our memories of Dave and his comic genius not be ruined by you and your gang of idiots.

Rob Scibetti, Staten Island, NY

Scibetti and Meatballs — Did you grow up on Staten Island? If so, we would think you'd want to destroy as many childhood memories as possible! And don't forget to wave to the Fresh Kills Dump as you drive by it! —Ed.



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## MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEWS

It's time for an exciting and astonishing collection of MAD's 2-Question Interviews, in which some of today's hottest stars and biggest newsmakers sit down for probing and in-depth chats!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

Would you mind two idiotic questions from MAD?

**BRIAN WILLIAMS:** Oh! Spy vs. Spy and all that? Long time reader, first time caller.

**MAD QUESTION TWO:** Thanks! Now that the interview is over, how do you think it went?

**BRIAN WILLIAMS:** Very well, though it dragged in the middle.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



**MAD QUESTION ONE:** Sorry to interrupt, Mr. Nader, but do you have a moment between presidential campaigns for a brief interview with MAD magazine?

**RALPH NADER:** What, me worry? I was in MAD magazine in 1965.

**MAD QUESTION TWO:** Well, we like to report on important people such as yourself every 40 to 50 years, so may we ask a couple of questions?

**RALPH NADER:** All right.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

For journalistic accuracy, can you please tell us the correct pronunciation of your first name?

**CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR:** Kris-tea-awn.

**MAD QUESTION TWO:** And your last name?

**CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR:** Ah-mon-poor.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

Have you heard the one where Yao Ming, Michael Phelps and George Bush walk into a bar?

**BOB COSTAS:** I have not. But I have a feeling I'm about to.

**MAD QUESTION TWO:** Too bad. We were hoping you could tell us. Maybe you know the one where they're stuck on a deserted island?

**BOB COSTAS:** Hahahaha. No, but that sounds like a good one, too.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

What's the #1 question that your fans ask you the most?

**JOHN MADDEN:** That would have to be, "Who's going to win the Superbowl?"

### MAD QUESTION ONE:

Oh. Do you know a little something about football?

**JOHN MADDEN:** [Silence.] Yes.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



**MAD QUESTION ONE:** Are you Chris Matthews of *Hardball*?

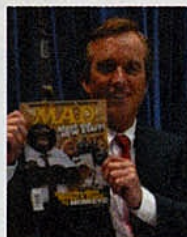
**CHRIS MATTHEWS:** Yes.

### MAD QUESTION TWO:

Would you indulge us by answering a couple of softball questions for MAD magazine?

**CHRIS MATTHEWS:** MAD? Sure.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

Are you familiar with MAD?

### ROBERT F. KENNEDY Jr.:

Yes. It was my favorite magazine growing up.

### MAD QUESTION TWO:

Excellent! Then how about giving us a minute for two stupid questions?

**ROBERT F. KENNEDY Jr.:** No! Hahaha!

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!



### MAD QUESTION ONE:

You're retired from the New York Giants now, aren't you?

**TIKI BARBER:** That is correct.

### MAD QUESTION TWO:

Good. So you're all flabby now and can't beat us to a pulp for asking two dumb questions?

**TIKI BARBER:** Hahaha. I'm still in pretty good shape, but I prefer to kill people with kindness these days. I smile and disarm them. Speaking of which... [smiles ear to ear]...It's a pleasure to meet you.

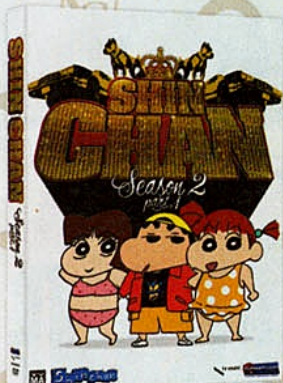
THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MAD's 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW!

### OUR GUARANTEE:

MAD'S 2-QUESTION INTERVIEWS ARE GENUINE AND PRESENTED VERBATIM!

PHOTOS AND INTERVIEWS: VIC ARKOFF

the Original  
*Lowrider*



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Jump in.

XBOX 360





## IN CLOD WE TRUST

Today at church I accidentally did something horrible! After church choir rehearsal, I went to the sanctuary to dip my hand in the baptismal and do the Father/Son/Holy Ghost thing my minister talks about. I set my MAD down, thinking that anything like MAD should never go in a sanctuary. Then, I dipped my hand in the Holy Water and did the Father/Son/Holy Ghost thing. While I was walking out of the sanctuary, my hand wasn't entirely dry. I picked up my MAD and I accidentally got Holy Water on it. Therefore making MAD holy! I don't know how I made such a blasphemy holy, but I do know that the Lord does work in strange ways.

Lee Cleaveland, Troy, MI

General Lee — It's a miracle! Specifically, that you didn't get third-degree burns from MAD bursting into flames after the Holy Water touched it! Can we get a Hallelujah?! —Ed.

## REVENGE OF THE WORDS

My English teacher recently assigned us an extra credit assignment. She gave us the choice between writing a letter to a magazine (and getting it published), or finding 10 vocabulary words in our reading books. Being an avid MAD reader, I thought it was an obvious choice. I figured that I could kill two birds with one stone; get my letter published in MAD and find 10 vocabulary words in my reading book (MAD magazine). So, here are the words...abhor, benevolent, capricious, despicable, effrontery, fallacy, gregarious, histrionics, iconoclast and jocular. Who knows what they mean? And thanks for helping me rack up the points in English.

Daniel Doft, San Diego, CA

Doft-Core Pornography — Happy to help! Oddly enough, every one of those words could be used to describe MAD writer Barry Liebmann. So histrionic! —Ed.

## READER ALERT

Those lucky enough to have their missives printed on this month's Letters Page will receive a pair of Stewie slippers courtesy of our friends at Twentieth Century Fox Licensing and Merchandising. For more information please visit [www.foxshop.com](http://www.foxshop.com). For those of you who weren't so lucky, don't try to destroy the world, they're on sale now!



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IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF  
PUBLISHING THAT IT WILL HAVE  
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"BIG DEAL!"**



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### CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS

the usual gang of idiots

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# An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,

**JEFFREY  
LOZENGE**



*In troubling times such as ours — and by “ours” I mean yours and mine, not someone else’s, which would be their troubling times, not ours — people — and by “people” I mean us, not those others who aren’t us but them — well, I’m sure you know what I’m getting at.*

**MAD** — and by “**MAD**” I mean **MAD** — is a magazine whose time is and continues to be. It defines who we are and where we’ve been and where we are hoping to go if we can only find the money and get some time off. No reasonable person would argue with that.

*And so it’s with that in mind — and by “that” I mean this, which is what I am about to say: I don’t wear a green suit with a question mark because I look attractive in it. I wear it because I must. A man must do what a man must do. And so must a woman. We are all one in nature’s garden.*

*Given all this, subscribing to **MAD** makes perfect sense. To you and me. Us.*

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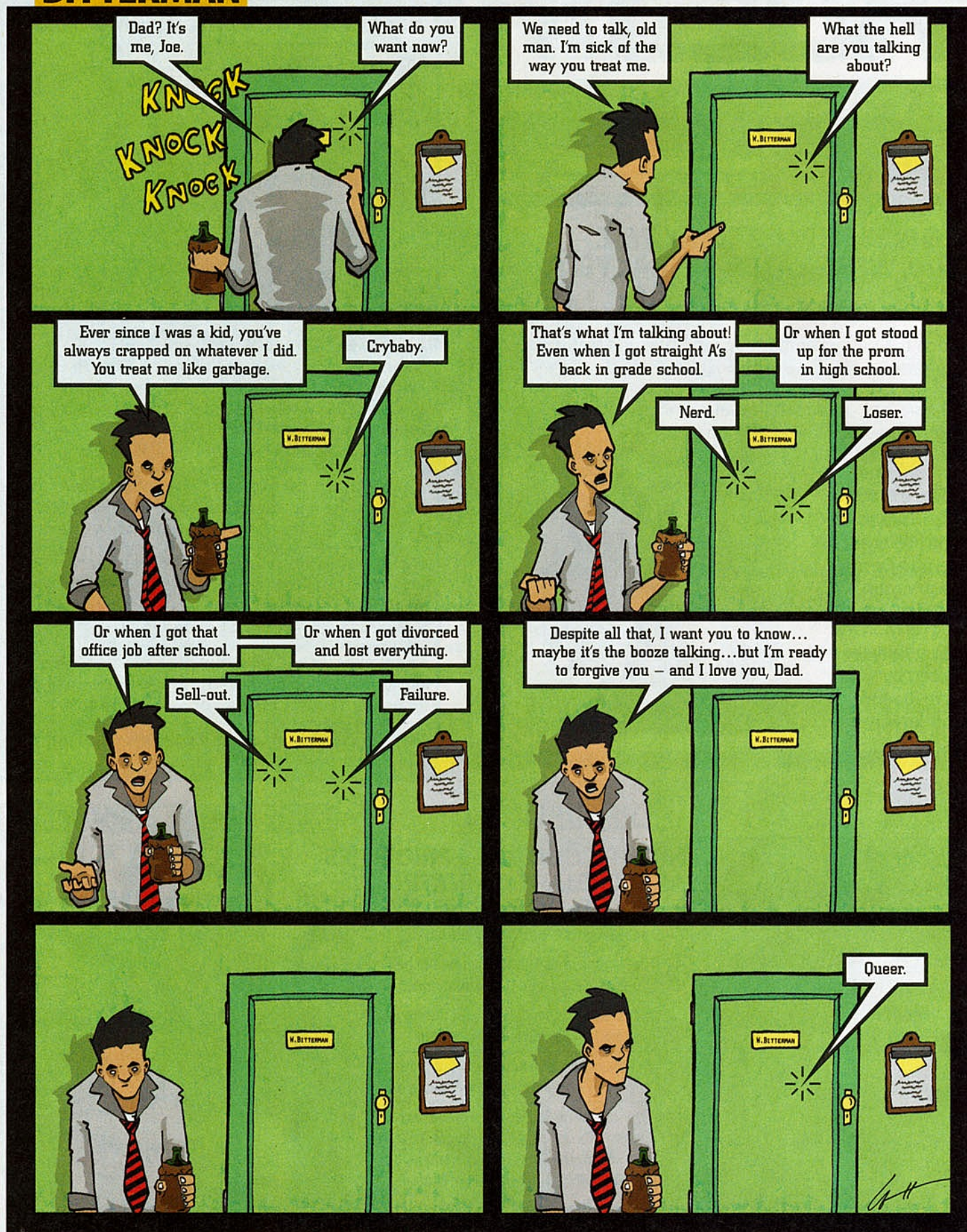
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## BITTERMAN







OBSERVATION DRECK DEPT.

# WHAT THE **HECK** IS THIS

Can you find the  
changes we've made to

**OUR VERSION OF "MOONRAKER" A SLAP AT "ROCKY II" SERGIO AL DON**  
**"MOONRAKER" "ROCKY II" ARAGONES JAFFEE MARTIN**  
...AND THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS ARE ALL IN THIS ISSUE OF...

No.  
213  
March  
'80

# MAD

OUR PRICE  
**75¢**  
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EXCLUSIVE! SCIENTISTS RELEASE  
MICROPHOTO OF BACTERIA THAT  
CAUSES FATAL COMPUTER DISEASE



is upside-down, Newton! (3) The wheels on Alfred's  
left is gone. (5) The female skater is now wearing  
on his sweater. (7) Alfred's left hand is reversed.  
(9) There's an "M" on Alfred's left skate.



# THE DIFFERENCE?

of the 9 idiotic  
on this magazine cover?

OUR VERSION OF "MOONRAKER" A SLAP AT "ROCKY III" SERGIO AL DON  
"ARAGONES" JAFFEE MARTIN  
...AND THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS ARE ALL IN THIS ISSUE OF...

No.  
213  
March  
'80

# MAD

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EXCLUSIVE! SCIENTISTS RELEASE  
MICROPHOTO OF BACTERIA THAT  
CAUSES FATAL COMPUTER DISEASE



(1) "Rocky III" is now "Rocky III." (2) The MAD logo is blue tights. (6) The angry skater has a purple stripe on his left skate. (8) Alfred has an extra lace on his left skate.





Hurm. So. Edward Branflake was the Funnyman! Here's his super-suit. Always thought he'd look better in floral patterns, though. Something in a lilac knit! Hold it. Stop. Focus.

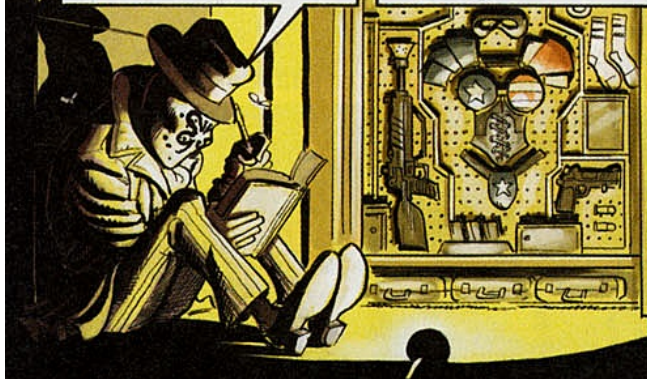
But who would kill Funnyman? He had no enemies. Except many within the government! And overseas! And everyone who ever knew him! Hurm. Going to need bigger notebook!

Found your beans, Daniel! Six cans. Didn't think you'd mind. Also, left a little present in microwave. Just don't trust toilets!

I still can't believe the Funnyman's dead! I can remember back when we both met him for the first time!

Yes, you and me! Together inside the flying Owl-Ship. Until you ended our partnership! Always wondered why.

It had a lot to do with sharing a cramped, airtight space with someone who likes eating beans!



A war with the Soviets could imperil our planet! Worse, it could break all my mirrors! As The World's Smartest Man™, my analysis shows that a full-scale attack would severely damage Bleidt Industries' holdings, cause a dip in Bleidt share trading, slow production of my Amoral Bleidt line of action toys and suppositories, and erode our 4Q profit margin!

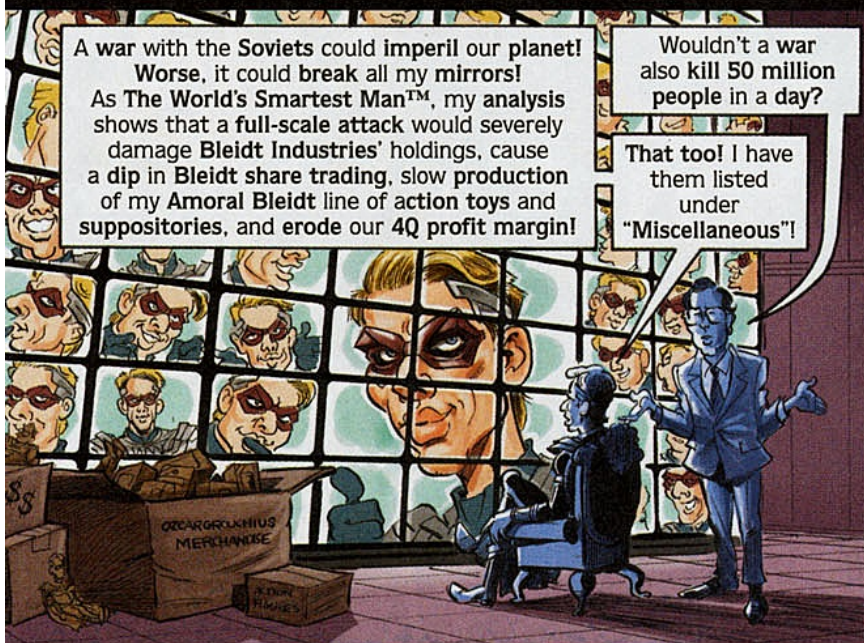
Wouldn't a war also kill 50 million people in a day?

That too! I have them listed under "Miscellaneous"!

It was unnecessary to warn me about Funnyman's murder, Wackjob. I can see the past, present and future simultaneously. Also, right after it happened, I got Twittered!

Your visit is logically pointless! I think you really sneaked in just to get a free peek at the Botchmen's resident sex symbol!

Okay, I did. But who's looking at YOU? RrrRRROW! The bigger and bluer, the better!



Jon, what's happened to the two of us? We used to be passionate about each other! But now you spend all your time on science experiments! Like the endless study you've been doing on the recalibration of thermal entropy. What does that even mean?

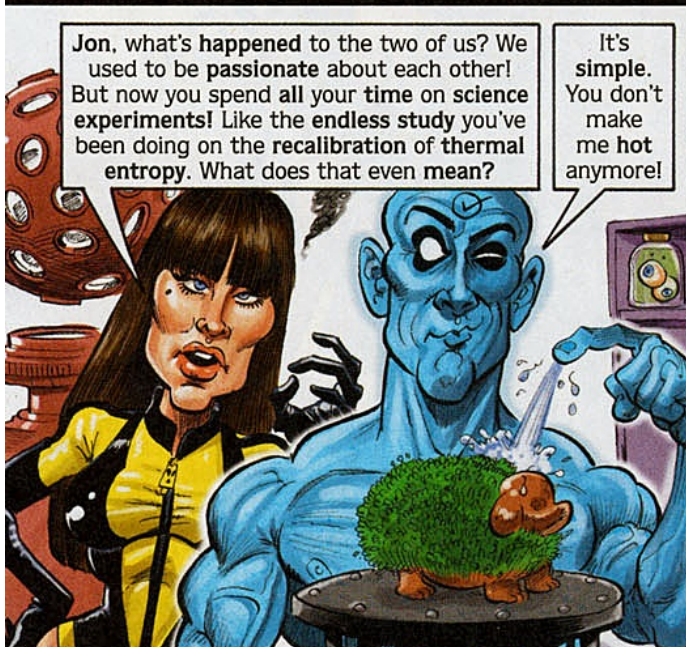
It's simple. You don't make me hot anymore!

I'll have a large order of calamari!

Sorry, but there's absolutely no big squid in this movie! And the fan geeks online are still posting furiously about it!

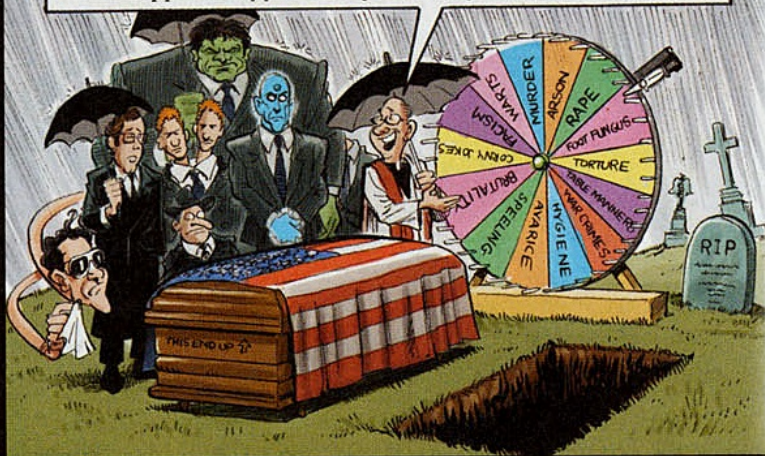
Jon's been so focused on his work! He's inventing an energy source large enough to power a critical plot device for a \$150 million film! It's like he doesn't see me as a warm, vibrant, sensuous woman anymore. Anyway, platonic pal, should we order ice cream for dessert?

Oh, yes! Two luscious scoops!



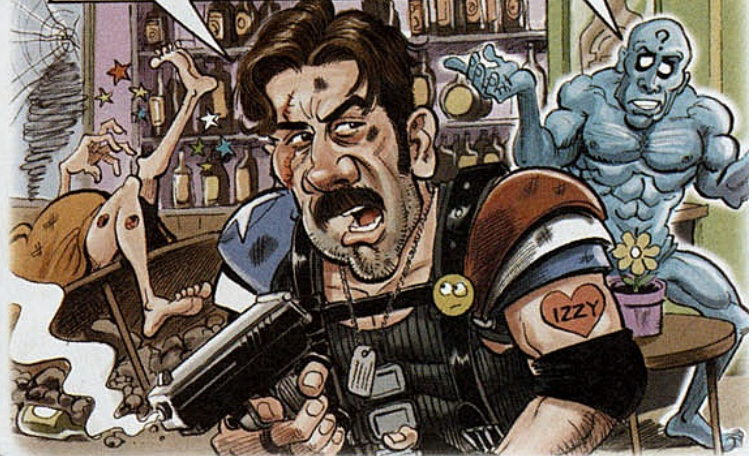


The late Funnyman left us with so many memories. So many horrible, revolting memories. The Convenient Wheel of Flashbacks spins round and round. Will it be Funnyman's war crimes? His Gestapo tactics during a street riot? His obnoxious pyromania? No more betting, because the Wheel of Flashbacks has stopped. Stopped on a particularly nasty bit of violence!



You watched my pregnant Vietnamese girlfriend slash my face with a broken bottle after I abandoned her! You watched me shoot her in the gut! You're drifting out of touch with humanity, Doc!

Eh. Whatever. In the end it was still a healthier relationship than Heidi and Spencer's!



I've heard of the Blue Man Group, but this is disgusting! How could you think this would be erotic for me? This relationship is over!



And the Number One reason why Dr. Meatdanglin' has been revealed as a contagious menace who gives his loved ones fatal doses of cancer is...why should he be the only one walking around with glowing lumps?

This interview is over! Leave me alone! This whole planet can go to hell!

Does this mean we're cutting the "long-lost brother" sketch?



Ah, that Mars atmosphere! The methane gas filled with tiny particles of grit and microbes always helps me clear my head! I had to leave Earth when I realized that I share no connection of any kind with the humans who surround me. Kind of like Alan Colmes at FOX News!

But it wasn't always this way. I remember the accident that gave me my powers...



Well, if there's a silver lining here, the good news is that your workman's comp package DOES cover having your physical structure ripped apart atom by atom and disintegrated!



Excuse me, Mr. Ozcargrouchius. I need you to sign this voucher for a fake assassination attempt!

I'm The Smartest Man in the World™, and a situation like this calls for a meticulous, sensible, intellectual response...YAH! YAH! EAT METAL POLE, BITCH!

We got you, Wackjob! And now that you've been captured, it's my job to evaluate you with a series of psychiatric tests. Will you cooperate?

I see five squirming rats, all devouring one another, while having intercourse! The biggest rat has my father's face burned onto its genitals! In the lower right corner I see Jesus Christ coming to kill them all with a machine gun!

Er...that's very interesting! But the inkblot cards are still inside that envelope! You're looking at a photograph of my wife and daughter!

You're the second superhero I've ever made love with! Although I once went to third base with Mr. Fantastic! But even he wasn't as soft and mushy as you! You're like one of those mega-event comic book series! Nothing actually happens!

I guess I should have told you there's a Crisis in my pants!

It's not that we aren't grateful for the way you two heroes saved our lives. But could you please close your owl-curtains? Nobody wants to see your undulating, middle-aged butt cheeks through the window!

Now that's what I call a reboot! I knew you had it in you! Listen to your huffing and puffing and heavy breathing! Is it my sexy naked body? Or do you have that old "super" feeling again?

Hhhuurk! It's...gack! Neither! It's smoke inhalation!

This is a rescue, Wackjob! So hurry up! We don't have time for this!

Says the person doing all her spin-kicks in super slow motion! One Mississippi. Two Mississippi. Three Mississippi... OUCH!

I've changed my mind about humanity! I now realize that you are a unique thermodynamic miracle, in all ways! See how Mars' lesser gravity affects the pooling of your puke? Whenever you sneeze, billions of irreproducible droplets fly out of your one-of-a-kind nose. And don't get me started on the wondrous magic of diarrhea!

Bleeaghghh! You can see the future. You knew what you'd do! But you brought me to Mars, just to tell me you're bringing me back to Earth! So what was the point of going to Mars at all?

Frequent flyer miles! If I don't use 'em, I lose 'em!

**BLOCH!**



Information. Now! Give me wrong response, I break your wrist. Helpful response, I only break your finger! And if you get ten right answers, we move on to the exciting lightning round! Squeal? Or no squeal?

He once shattered my collarbone even after I'd told him everything. Just because I didn't phrase my confession in the form of a question!

No! God, no! This shouldn't be happening! We don't deserve this!

No f'n way! An energy explosion? This TOTALLY changes the dramatic deus ex machina from the original graphic novel! If there are message boards in Heaven, they'll soon be hearing the ultimate rant from meeeeee.....



Success! I blew up New York, Moscow, Beijing, London, Paris, Tokyo, and Indianapolis! I know that last one makes no sense, but what the hell! I just can't stand Peyton Manning!

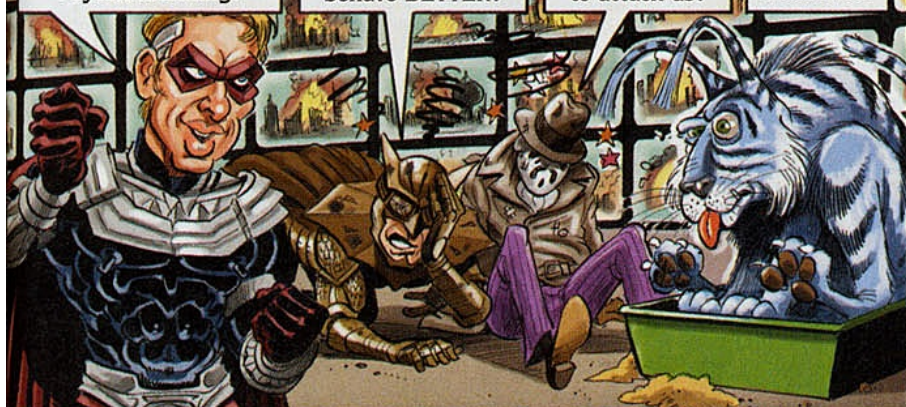
Ozcargrouchius, your plan is insane! Why would the omnipresent threat of further random annihilation inspire people to behave BETTER?

Also, Dr. Meatdanglin' is American! What if rest of the world blames the U.S., and unites to attack us?

Why do you think I'm having all of my mail forwarded to my hideout in Antarctica?

The world's smartest man means as much to me as its smartest termite! And in case you're interested, the world's smartest termite is currently a show runner for NBC's Heroes!

What I did was necessary! I destroyed 5% of the world, in order to save the other 95%! Say, would you mind shrinking? I could probably deal with the staggering consequence of my heinous moral compromise a bit better if I didn't have to stare up at your dangling blue junk!



I'll never remain quiet, so go ahead. Kill me! If I must pay the ultimate price for my principles, so be it! When the world finds out, they will honor my sacrifice. In death, history will vindicate me!

Actually, Wackjob, no one knows that we're here. Your death will go completely unnoticed!

Worst. Martyrdom. Ever.



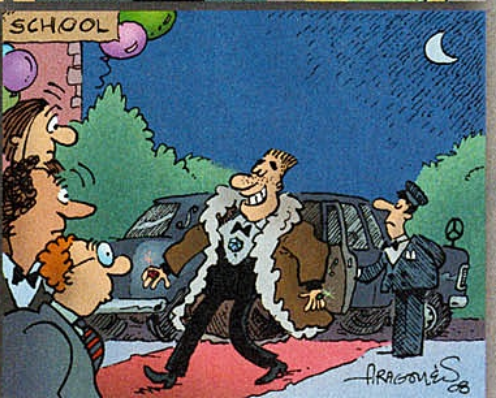
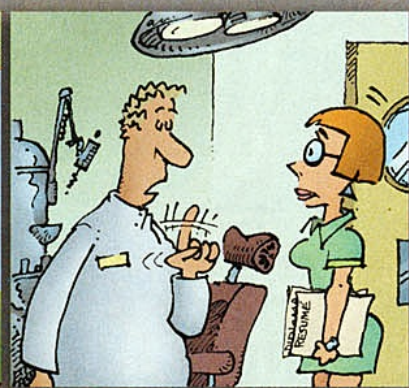
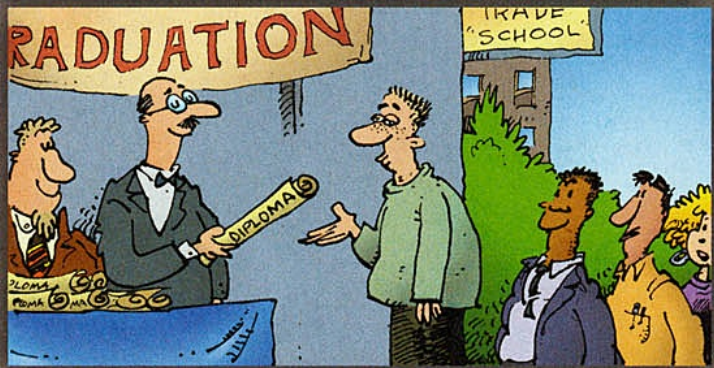
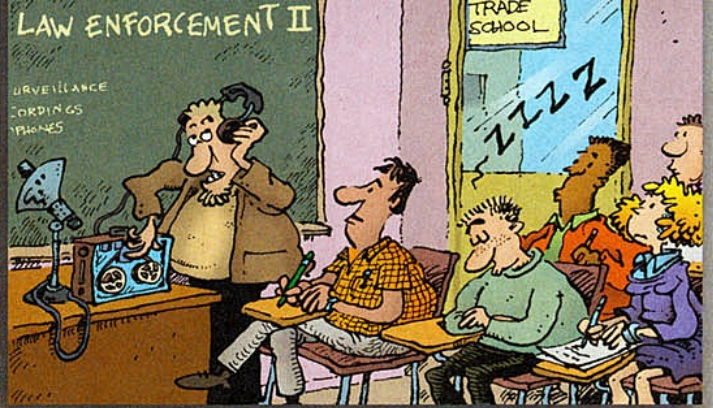
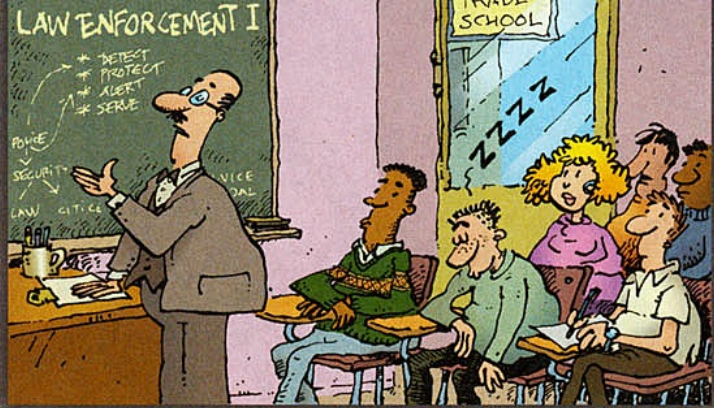
Most of the Botchmen are dead! We can kiss a sequel goodbye! But I wonder...why didn't Dr. Meatdanglin' just make exact copies of himself for every country and put an end to war brinksmanship?

And why did Wackjob have to die? He's a sociopath whose word authorities would never believe!

Don't ask me! I'm The Smartest Man in the World™, and I'm STILL trying to figure out why I needed to throw Funnyman out the window!











**A SMALL-BOX EPIDEMIC DEPT.**

As you know, on February 17, 2009, America will switch to digital TV — but we don't care about them. The

# DIGITAL

**Q: What are my options?**

**A:** You can either stay with your analog TV, which will become a huge paperweight; buy a digital TV; buy a converter box; or stop watching TV altogether. They all work.

**Q: Will TV shows be better with digital technology?**

**A:** No, the content will be just as tired, poorly written and clichéd as ever, but it will all look sharper now.

**Q: I bought a digital TV years ago, so I don't have to worry about the 2009 transition. In your faces!**

**A:** Well, that's not a question, but point well taken.

**Q: After February, can I still use a wire coat hanger as an antenna if reception is bad?**

**A:** Yes, but it must be a digital coat hanger. For a voucher, go to [www.digitalTV/hanger.com](http://www.digitalTV/hanger.com).

**Q: February 2009 seems a really convenient date for the switchover. Is this part of Barack Obama's secret plan to make America a Muslim nation?**

**A:** No, not as far as we know, but if it is, you will be able to see the whole thing play out in stunning, crystal-clear resolution.



ica will make the transition from analog to digital TV. Maybe other nations will, following are common questions that the great unwashed have been asking lately...

# TV FAQ's

**Q: What are some of the so-called "gray market" off-brands I can purchase if I want to save some money?**

**A:** Sunni, Funkadelic, Seppuku, and Shotiba are popular off-brands.

**Q: I read that DVRs can pause and rewind live television. Doesn't that violate the whole space-time continuum thing?**

**A:** Yes, so read the manual *very* carefully.

**Q: Can I TiVo myself on YouTube using an HD recorder to capture my digital camera images, then upload the whole thing to the Ethernet for everyone to see? You know, just to be an asswipe?**

**A:** Yes, but that's the only reason to possibly do it.

**Q: While setting up DIRECTV, I got an error message saying that the smart card is being canceled because it was reported as lost or stolen. Should I take the whole unit back to the alley where I bought it, or risk selling it on eBay?**

**A:** We recommend donating it to charity, or getting rid of it by other, more anonymous means.

**Q: What other household appliances will I have to convert to digital?**

**A:** All blenders and toasters will need to convert, though breadmakers and ceiling fans are optional.

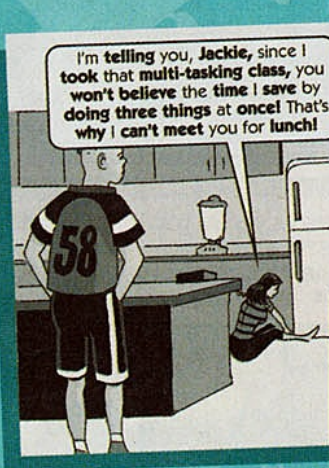
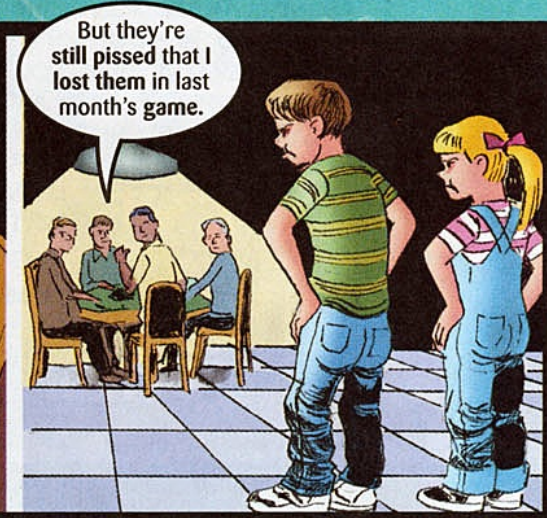




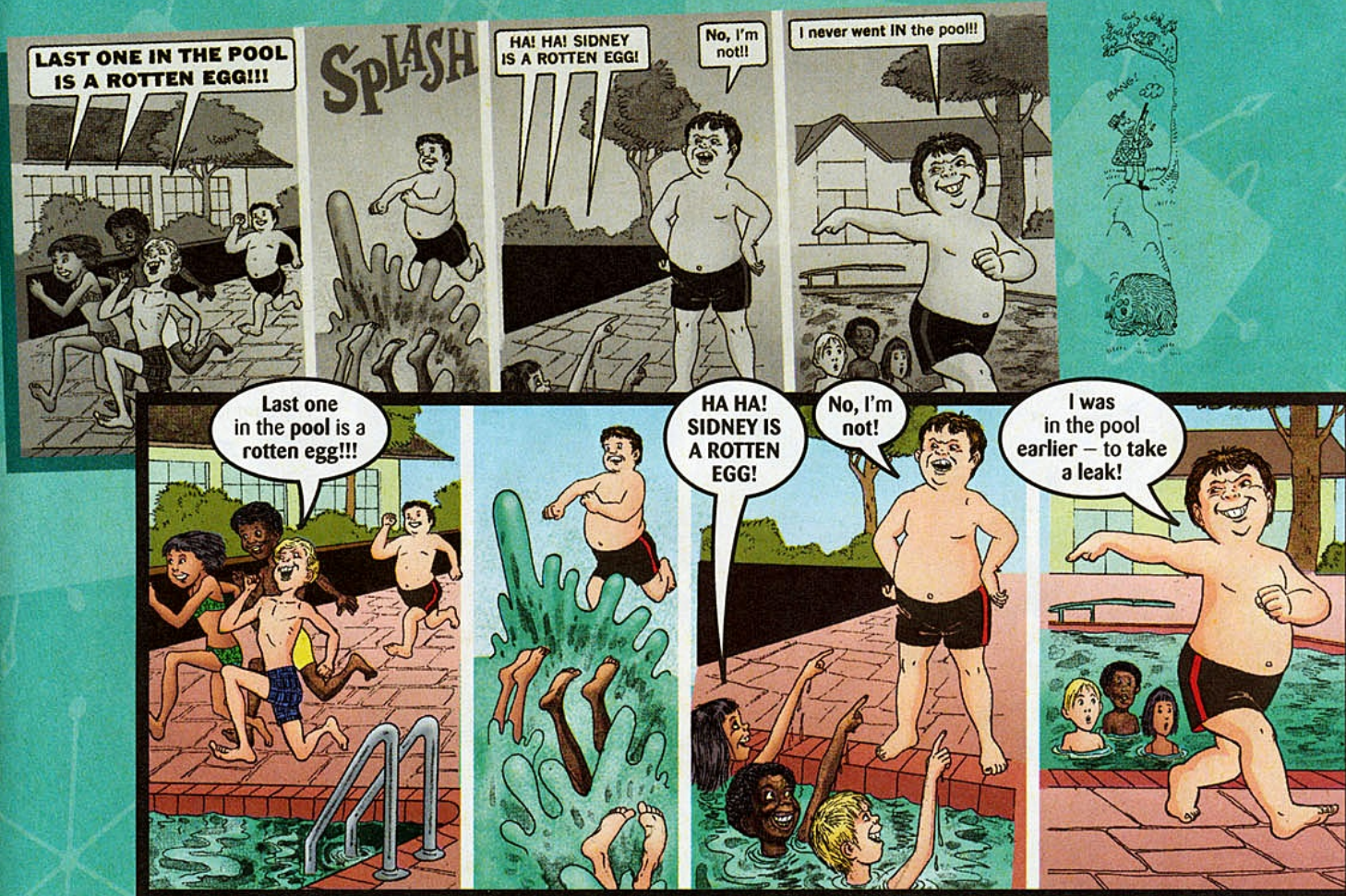
# THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE



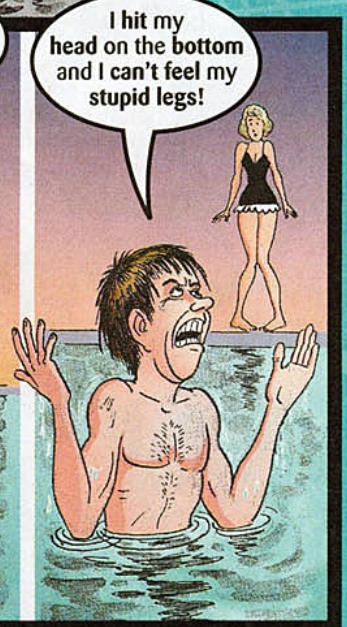
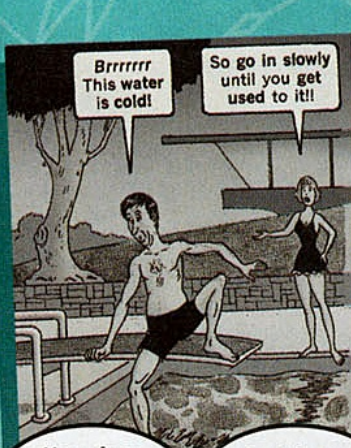
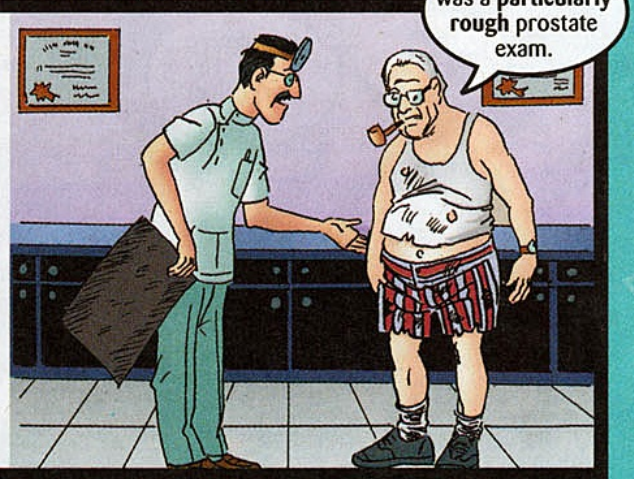
We tamper with classic Dave Berg strips, even though nobody asked us to — especially not Dave!













**From JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank, Inc.  
To: The American People**

As you know, the government recently advanced us \$350 billion in bailout money. Here at JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank, Inc. we understand that you, the taxpayer, want to know where your hard-earned tax money is going. And, in return, we ask you to understand that it is in *our* interest to withhold this information.

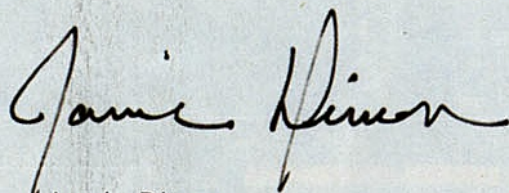
You may wonder: Is the money being spent on corporate bonuses? Lavish junkets? Or to acquire other banks? We could answer these questions, but that would take time away from our current "crisis mission" of working out corporate bonuses, planning lavish junkets and acquiring more banks.

Then there's the mistaken notion that there is no process in place to make sure that we use the bailout money wisely. Rest assured that we have assembled a team of banking experts, with years of experience in sub-prime loans, derivatives and other highly leveraged financial instruments, to work tirelessly to find ways to spend the bailout money. Who better to steer us out of this catastrophic mess than the very same financial wizards that got us into it?

So where is the money? Without being too specific, let us just unequivocally state: Some of the money is here, some of it is there, and we'll be moving it around in the future to give the impression that we're doing something that benefits you.

Finally, we applaud the Federal Government for taking quick action with no strings attached and not treating us like those blue collar losers in Detroit.

God bless America.



Jamie Dimon  
Chairman

PS: Good news! While you were reading this important message, the name of the bank has changed again! We're now JP CitiChaseWaCapitalMu Bank *of America*, Inc.





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ABOUT  
**STAR WARS**  
Thirty Years of Classic Parodies

WRITTEN BY JONATHAN BRESMAN  
FOREWORD BY GEORGE LUCAS

**SPY vs SPY 2**

THE JOKE AND DAGGER FILES

BY DAVID SHAYNE  
FOREWORD BY J.J. ABRAMS

**MAD**  
ABOUT  
POLITICS

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THE VISUAL GANG  
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Be sure to  
POP-UP  
political Parody

15  
STUPIDLY  
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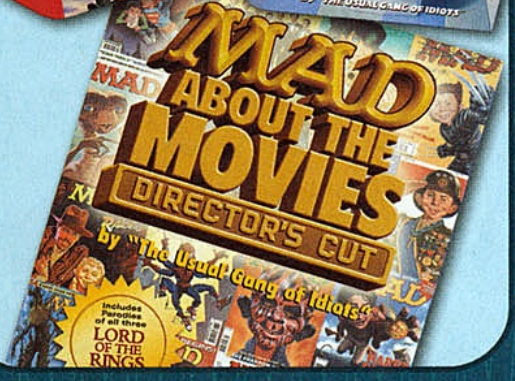
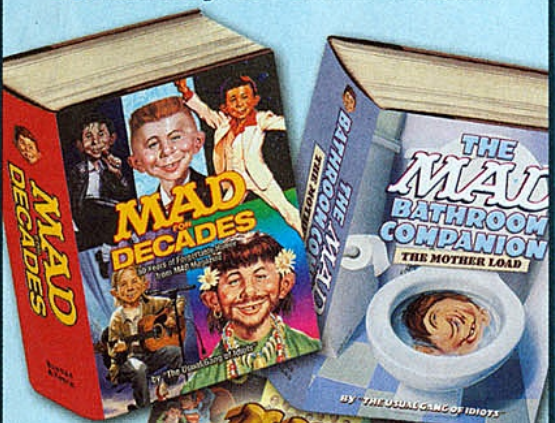
2009 Calendar

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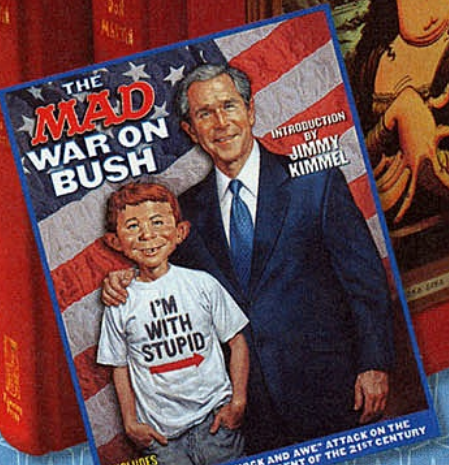
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INTRODUCTION  
BY  
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INCLUDES  
CLASSIC  
MAD  
ARTISTS

A "SHOCK AND AWE" ATTACK ON THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE 21ST CENTURY



MAD's  
GREATEST  
ARTISTS

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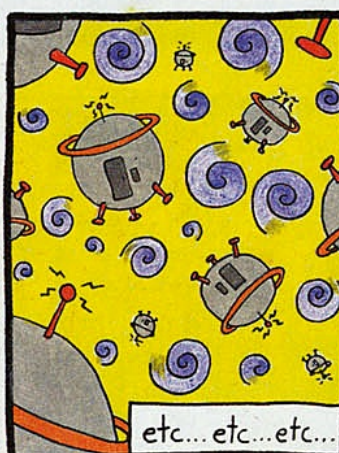
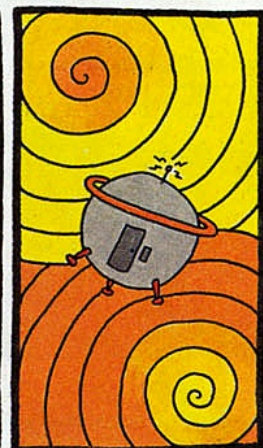
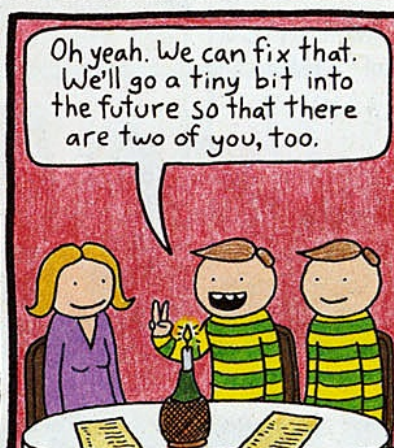
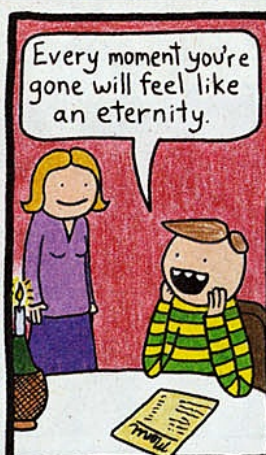
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GREATEST  
ARTISTS

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ARTISTS



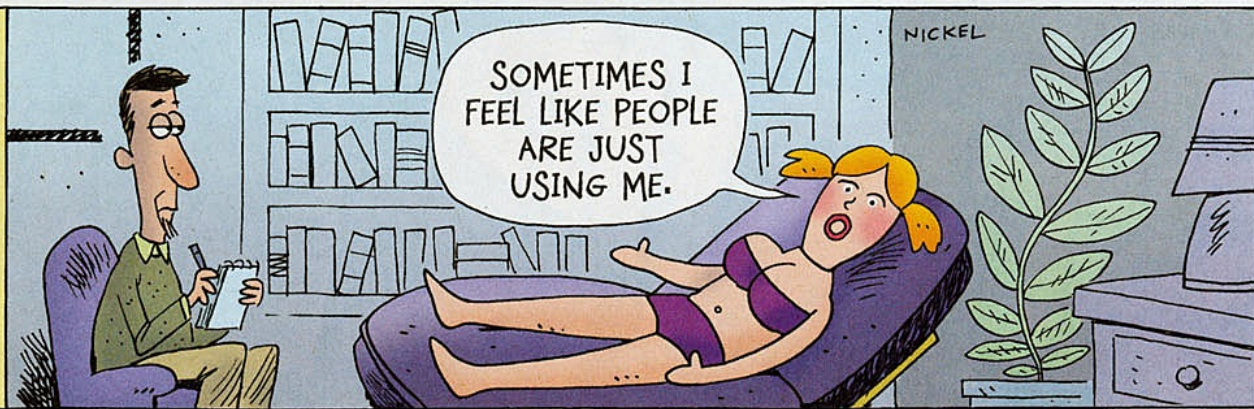


# THE STRIP CLUB



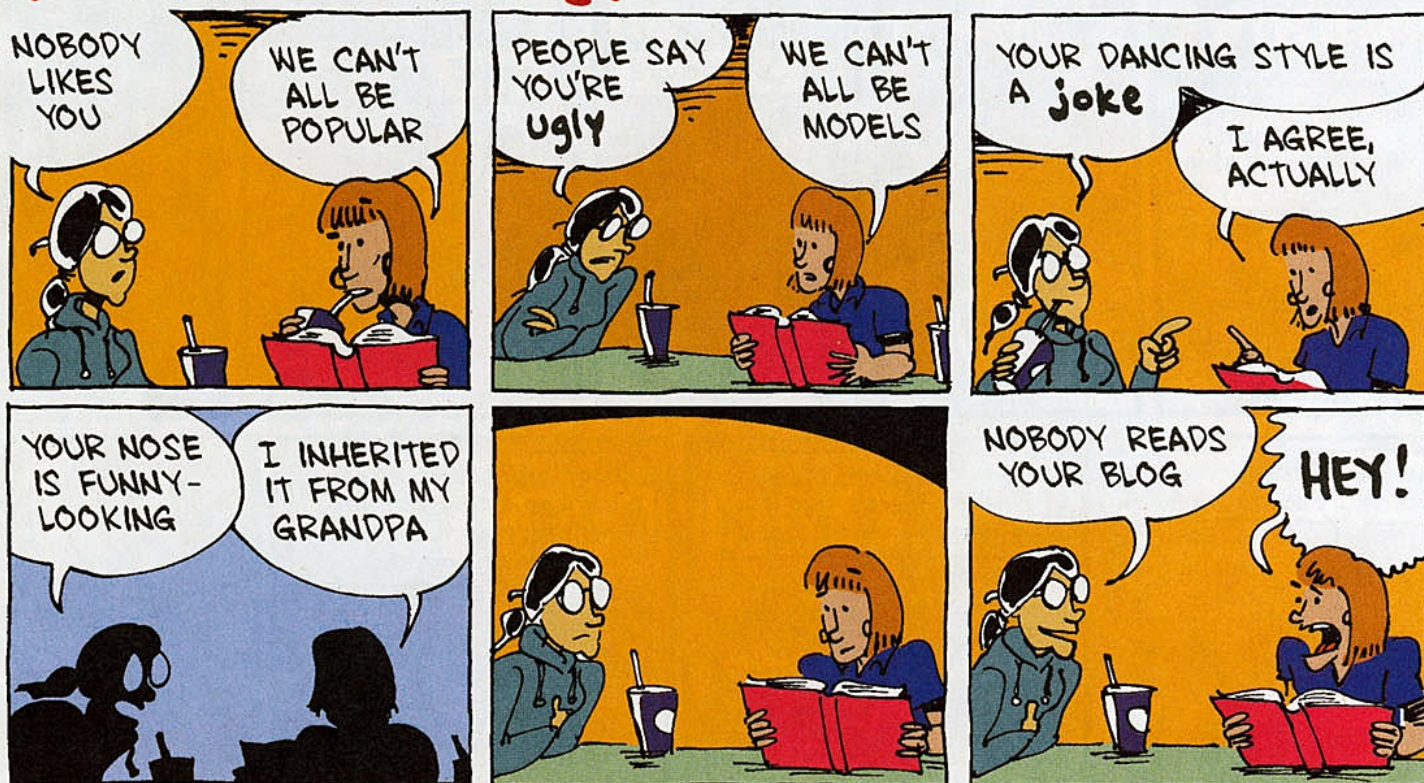


# THE DORK SIDE



SCOTT NICKEL

## your mama's website is so ugly...



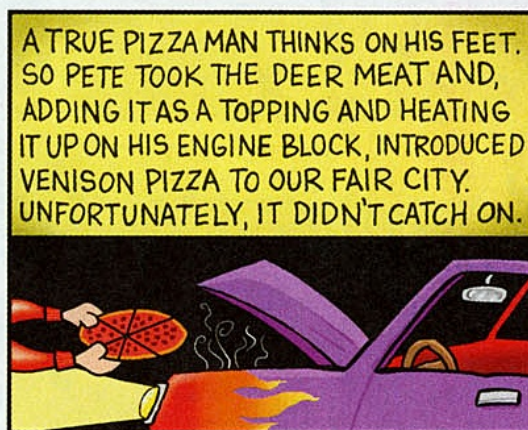
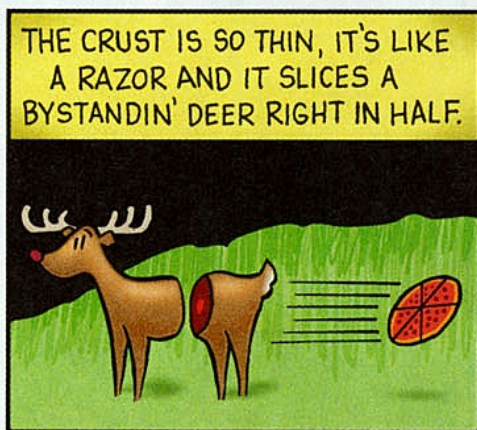
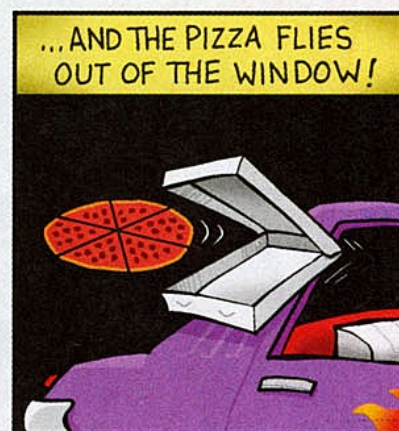
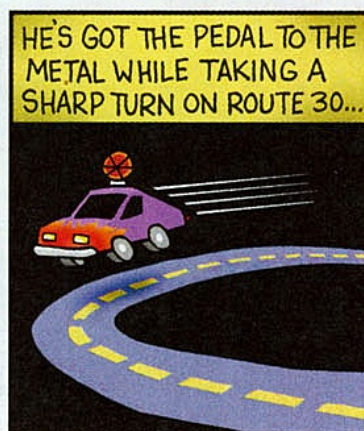
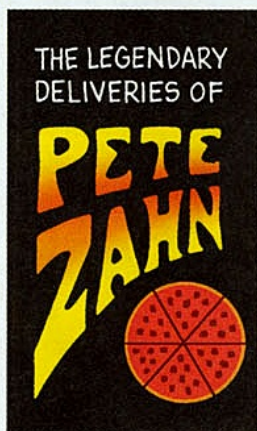
TONY MURPHY

## The Longs and Short of It...



DAN LONG





JOHN KOVALESKI

# THE ROOMMATES: JOHN, JOE AND JERRY



TODD CLARK



# One Lovely Easter Morning

THE EASTER BUNNY ISN'T REAL, BRIAN. JUST WAIT, MOM AND DAD ARE THE ONES WHO WILL PUT OUT OUR EASTER BASKETS.

NO WAY! THE BUNNY IS GONNA COME.

WAIT, WHAT'S THAT?

LOOK! SEE IT?! SEE IT?!

HELLO MR. AND MRS. GOODWIN. I'VE BROUGHT EASTER BASKETS FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

THANK YOU, EASTER BUNNY.

HOW ARE ELISE AND BRIAN DOING, ANYWAY?

OH, THEY'RE FINE. BUT THEY'RE STILL SO YOUNG.

ELISE IS TEN, BRIAN IS NINE.

SO, YOU HAVEN'T TOLD THEM YET?

WELL... UMM... NO.

SANTA ASKED US THE SAME THING!

LISTEN, IT'S GOOD TO STAY YOUNG AND IDEALISTIC, BUT AT SOME POINT THEY NEED TO KNOW THE MYTHS THEY GREW UP WITH FOR WHAT THEY ARE.

WE KNOW, BUT—

THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT BABIES DON'T COME FROM STORKS, BUT FROM INTERCOURSE. AND BRIAN'S BELIEF THAT ONLY "OTHER" PEOPLE GET S.T.D.s IS TOTALLY FALSE.

YEAH, I WISH MY PARENTS HAD TOLD ME THAT. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT ITCHES.

YOU NEED TO TELL THEM THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T ACTUALLY REPRESENT THE PEOPLE, BUT INSTEAD IS A SLAVE TO SELF-INTEREST GROUPS.

CAN'T WE LET THEM BELIEVE FOR A WHILE LONGER THAT INSURANCE AND HOUSING ARE AFFORDABLE?

YES. MAYBE NEXT YEAR. ELISE WILL BE STARTING MIDDLE SCHOOL THEN.

WELL, IF SHE'S ALREADY A CRACK ADDICT THROWING ORGIES BY THEN, DON'T COME CRYING TO ME.

THEY GROW UP SO QUICKLY.

THERE, THERE.

PARENTS ARE SO NAIVE. I'VE KNOWN WE'RE BEING OPPRESSED BY AN EVIL IMPERIALIST GOVERNMENT FOR YEARS.

DANG! I'D WONDERED WHAT THAT RASH WAS.





Tom Clancy's

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Alcohol Reference  
Mild Language  
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N I C O L A S C A G E



# KNOWING

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE NUMBERS RUN OUT?

SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS  
AN ESCAPE ARTISTS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH MYSTERY CLOCK CINEMA AN ALEX PROYAS FILM NICOLAS CAGE "KNOWING" ROSE BYRNE CHANDLER CANTERBURY CASTING BY GREG APPS  
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SCREENPLAY BY RYNE PEARSON AND JULIET SNOWDEN & STILES WHITE AND STUART HAZELDINE ADAPTATION BY ALEX PROYAS STORY BY RYNE PEARSON DIRECTED BY ALEX PROYAS



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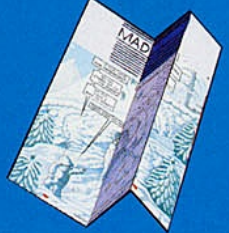




A "SNAPPY  
ANSWERS TO  
STUPID QUESTIONS"  
SNOWBOARDING  
CONVERSATION

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS  
**MAD FOLD-IN**

What can you do when some flake poses a moronic query to you?  
Sure, you can shoot them an icy glance, or give them the cold shoulder  
— but other than that, you really just have to weather their idiocy.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

**A**

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

**B**

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

IS THAT YOUR  
NEW SNOWBOARD?

NO, IT'S MY MOM'S  
OLD IRONING BOARD!

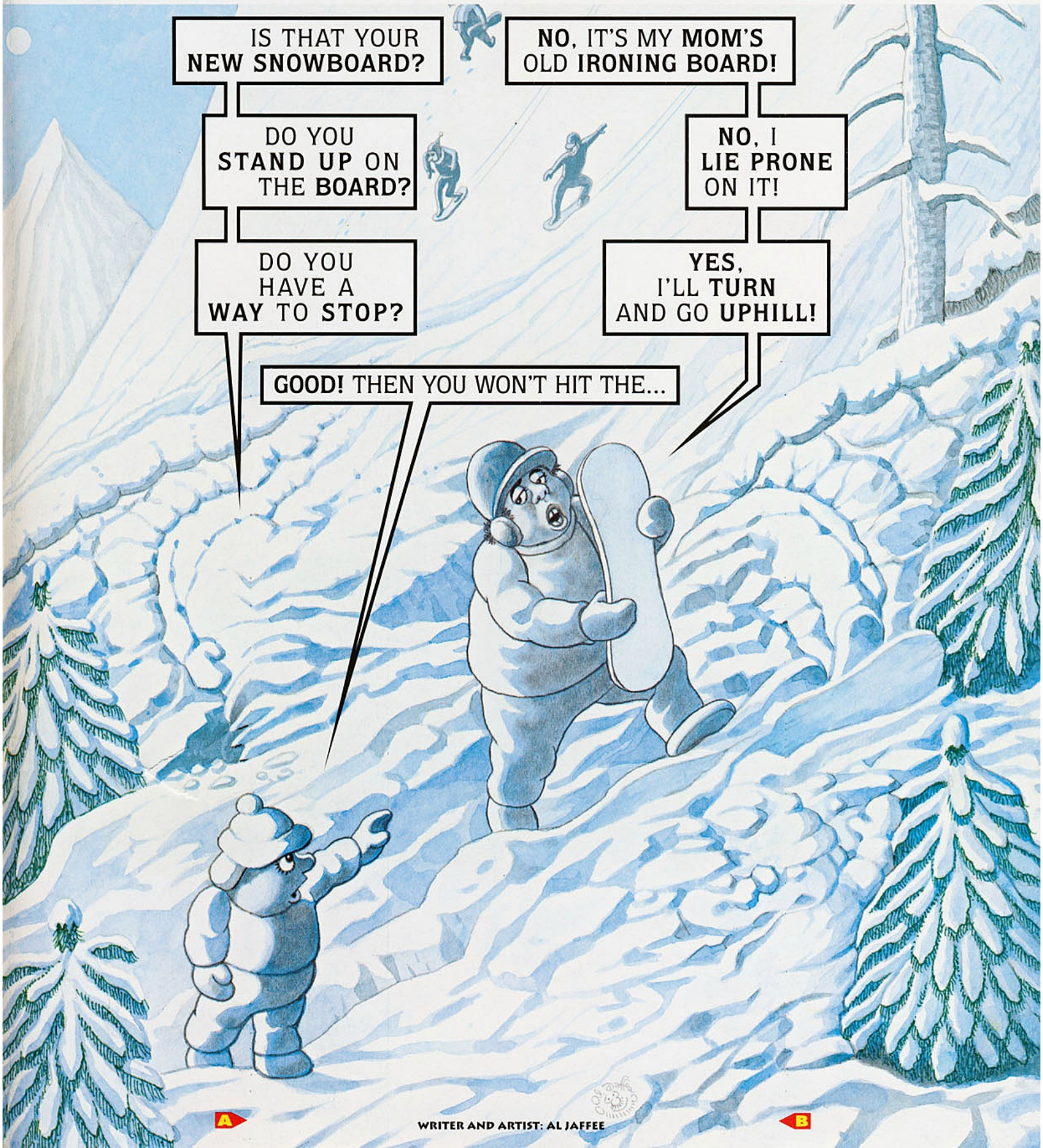
DO YOU  
STAND UP ON  
THE BOARD?

NO, I  
LIE PRONE  
ON IT!

DO YOU  
HAVE A  
WAY TO STOP?

YES,  
I'LL TURN  
AND GO UPHILL!

GOOD! THEN YOU WON'T HIT THE...



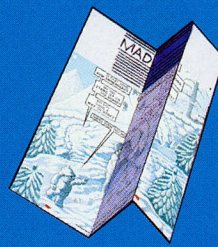
**A**

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

**B**



# A "SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS" SNOWBOARDING CONVERSATION



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

**A** **B** FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



NEW

STONE

WALL!

**A** **B**



# STAR TREK

IN THEATERS 05.08.09



WE SCoured  
THE UNIVERSE  
TO FIND ONE.

MEET THE GALAXY'S  
BIGGEST TREKKIE @  
[ESURANCE.COM/STARTREK](http://ESURANCE.COM/STARTREK).

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FOR MORE CHANCES TO WIN  
+ EXCLUSIVE MOVIE CONTENT  
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## MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™

So I was thumbing through my usual issue of MAD magazine I pick up at my local bookstore, when my dad came into my room. He then looked at the front and asked to see it. So I gave it to him and he started laughing his butt off. He then went and got my very small stack of previous issues. He is so curious to read them. On the other hand, my mom thinks they are "insensitive and boring." We don't understand what she means. So, my wish for the MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™ is for you to send a bunch of magazines for my dad to become enlightened and to teach my mom the amazing ways of your brilliant humor!

Robert Landis, Houston, TX

One If By Landis — We wish we could help you, but, sadly, MAD has never successfully brought a family together, we've only driven them apart. Your best bet is for you and your dad to start fresh with a new mom who actually appreciates MAD. A few hours on eHarmony and you'll be well on your way to a funnier, MAD-loving family. Chase that dream! —Ed.



## ALFRED E. NEUMAN LOOK-A-LIKE

Here is a photo of the winner in the Alfred E. Neuman look-a-like contest, my son, Griffin Golden. Please send the cash directly to me and I will safely deposit it in an interest-bearing account until he turns 18. Then I will buy myself a nice gift!

Rob Golden, Riverside, CT

Corn on the Rob — Yes, Griffin is the winner — and judging from your letter, he is the first "winner" in your family's history! —Ed.



# DRAGON BALL Z



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## THE ADVICE HAS IT

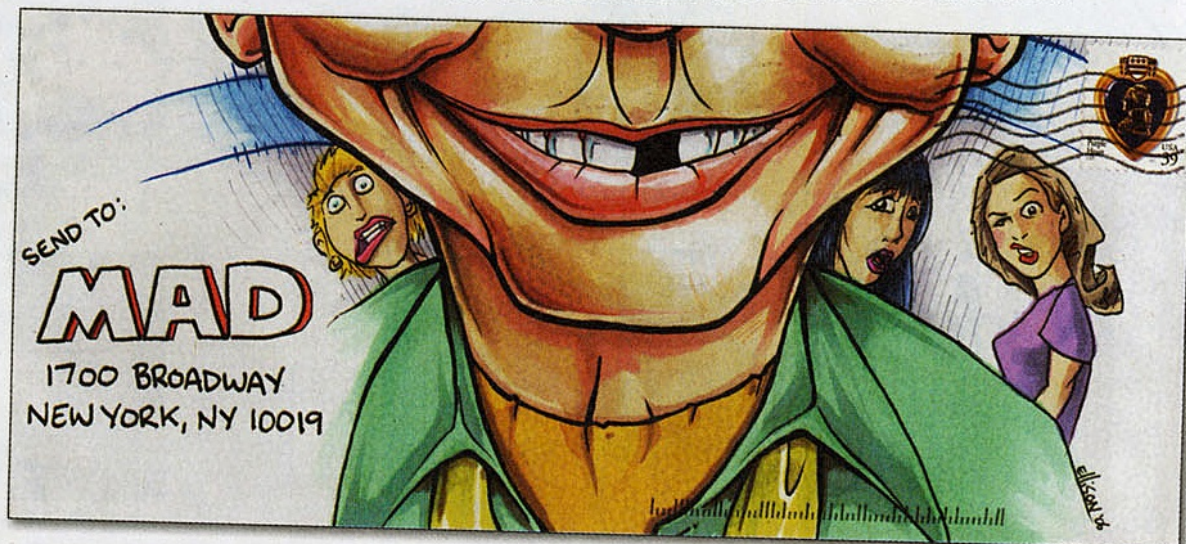
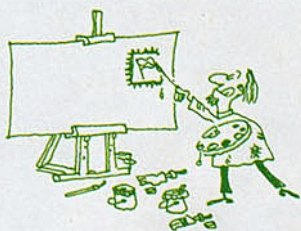
I was wondering what is MAD's "Meaning of Life," because right now my life has no meaning and I was wondering if you could provide some suggestions.

Peter Abraham, Appleton, WI

In the Pete of the Night — We're glad you asked this. For years, we wondered the same thing and we sought the advice of our wise old grandfather. His answer stayed with us till this very day: he simply said the meaning of life is "all about the coleslaw." In hindsight, grandfather was a bit bonkers, but we hope his advice has helped you out. —Ed.

## ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

This month's Envelope of the Month was sent in by Luke Ellison of Toledo, OH. That's a mighty fine nose divot!



## IT'S A REAL SLAM DRUNK

You know when you come home after a long night of drinking and you do something really dumb and typical like eat a burrito that's been in the refrigerator for two weeks or call an ex-girlfriend? Well, last night after a night on the town, I came home and subscribed to your stupid magazine. I talked to my friend the next day and he told me that when he got home he stuck his tongue in a fan. Even after hearing that, I still thought it was more idiotic to have subscribed to your magazine.

James Smith Jr., New York, NY

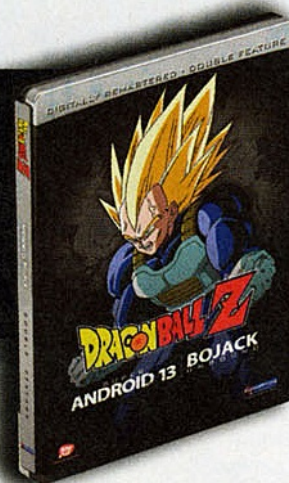
Fun and James — We know exactly what you mean! After all, we decided to open your letter, read it and print it. That electric fan is looking pretty good right now! —Ed.

# REMASTERED

AVAILABLE **FEB 10<sup>TH</sup> 2009**

- INCLUDES TWO UN CUT MOVIES IN ONE SET
- STUNNING 5.1 SURROUND SOUND WITH ORIGINAL JAPANESE AUDIO
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**ANDROID 13**  
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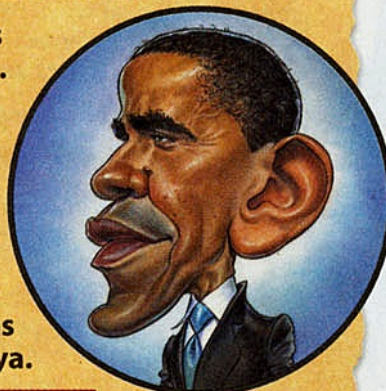


# THE FUNDALINI

## EERIE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND BARACK OBAMA

The modern Republican Party has no use for either one's core values.

Lincoln's Secretary of State bought Alaska, which many considered foolish. Obama's opponent foolishly bought *into* an Alaskan.



Neither was born in Kenya.

Both chose a white man as a running mate. Otherwise, they probably wouldn't have won.

Lincoln said "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Obama's mother-in-law will live in the White House, so stay tuned on that one.



Both were from Illinois, yet neither ever saw the Cubs win the World Series.

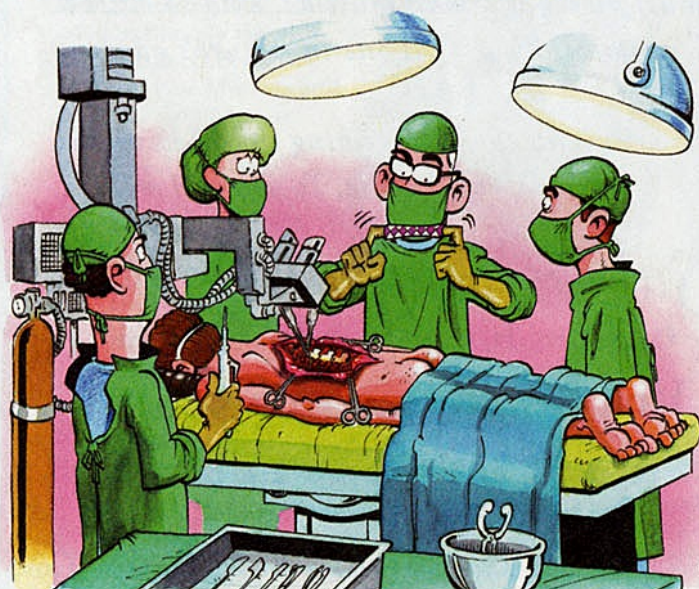
## THE FAST 5

### MAIN DUTIES OF OBAMA'S NEW CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER



- 1 Test all of the spam penis enlargement products, then go after the ones that clearly don't work
- 2 Come up with an emoticon for detached ennui
- 3 Correct the spelling and grammar in sites like Netflix and Ain't It Cool News
- 4 Intervene in flame wars without prior approval of Congress
- 5 Change eBay seller ratings at the pleasure of the President

## THE YUNGBLUTH AND THE RESTLESS



"It was already a complex procedure... and now there's *this* wrinkle!"

## MELVIN & JENKINS'

### GUIDE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



**Jenkins** gladly gives up his seat on the bus to an elderly passenger.



**Melvin** always sits across two seats because he likes the way the plastic divider feels between his cheeks.



# PAGES

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## STORIES REPORTED BY TMZ THAT WERE LATER RETRACTED

- The Olsen twins aren't related
- Much to Disney's embarrassment, "Hakuna Matata" translates to "Up yours!" in Swahili
- *Jurassic Park* used real dinosaurs, though the sequels used special effects
- Al Pacino turned down the title role in *Malcolm X*, which eventually went to Denzel Washington
- Cookie Monster was originally voiced by porn legend Ron Jeremy



## HOW GEORGE W. BUSH WILL BE PERCEIVED BY VARIOUS AMERICANS



Sports fans will want to immortalize Bush in Cooperstown for having abandoned his life's dream of becoming baseball commissioner in order to become President — and thus screwing up the country instead of America's pastime.

American workers forced to hold down five jobs just to make ends meet will consider Bush another Jefferson — who also did nothing about slavery.

Historians will consider Bush to truly be "a uniter, not a divider," because they'll no longer have those knock-down, drag-out fights over who was the worst U.S. President ever.

Legal experts will give him high marks for his ethics, for *giving away* high-level cabinet positions to incompetents, instead of *selling* them.

Virtually all Americans will consider him greater than Lincoln — at ducking.

## SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S "MINI-MYSTERY"

Dr. Higginsby discovered that Arthur Flintlock's pancreas had a false bottom. A closer inspection revealed the purloined pearls!

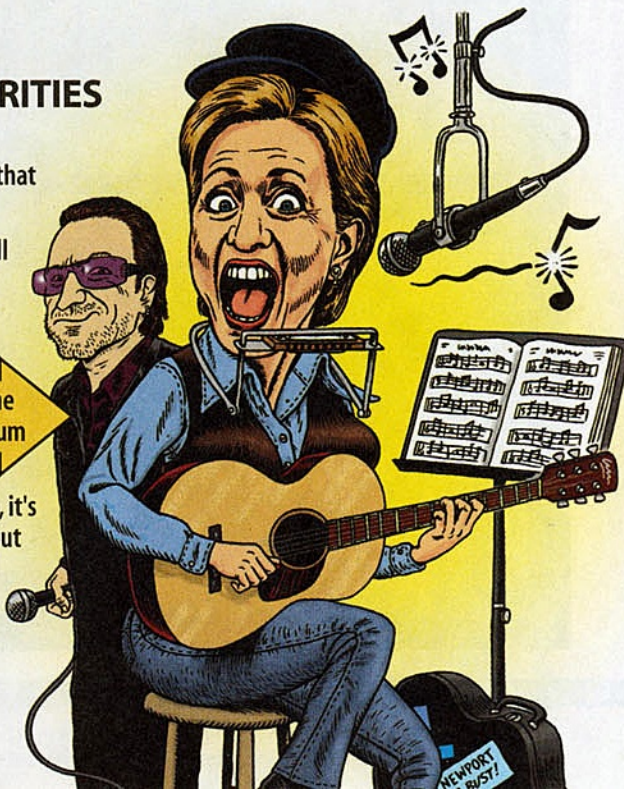


NEXT MONTH:  
"The Curious Casserole"!

## THE SUBLIME 7

### HILLARY CLINTON'S PRIORITIES AS SECRETARY OF STATE

- 1 Be really convincing while pretending that peace is possible in the Middle East
- 2 Determine once and for all how the hell "Qatar" is supposed to be pronounced
- 3 See that Bill is safely occupied during any trips to Bangkok or Amsterdam
- 4 Team up with Bono on 1) African famine relief and 2) experimental folk/blues album
- 5 Propose sweeping changes in the way banks give sub-prime mortgages. Yeah, it's the area of the Treasury Department, but so what? She's Hillary Freakin' Clinton!
- 6 Fly to Stockholm and have some real Swedish meatballs, not the stuff they serve in the Senate cafeteria
- 7 Get to work on 200 separate "Apology for the last eight years" speeches







## MOORE'S CODE DEPT.

They've screwed up the world! They've screwed up their lives! And now, they're ready to screw up 20 years' worth of critical goodwill and fond memories of the beloved graphic novel that started it all! The book's still great! But who'd watch the...

# BOYFRIEND

In films like *Psycho* and *Pulp Fiction*, the moviemakers shocked audiences out of their shoes by killing off a character they cared about halfway through the movie! In this one, we shake up the formula! We bore the audience, by immediately killing off a character they've never seen, and have absolutely no feelings about!

I'm Ozcargrouchius, the Smartest Man in the World™! For instance, I can tell you that as a body in freefall, the Funnyman is traveling downward at a speed of 32.174 ft/s! Or if you prefer the metric system, his nominal rate of acceleration is 9.80665 m/s! By *either* measurement, though, the hot dog vendor right downstairs is hosed!

The identity of Funnyman's murderer is supposed to be this movie's deep, dark mystery! But if you're paying incredibly close attention, you may have noticed that I'm not a girl, I'm not blue, I'm not the masked nutcase and I'm not the dead guy! Do the math!



Criminals are a cowardly, superstitious lot. I must be dark... terrible... a creature of the night... an OWL! Hey, what do you want from me? "Bat" was already taken! I don't want to get my owl-ass sued off!

I've really embraced the whole "owl" gimmick, with the night-vision goggles, the wing-like cape, and the sonic screech weapon! If I could just lay eggs, eat raw mice and rotate my head backwards, I'd be the total package!

Unlike the emotionally repressed Nerd-Owl, my suit leaves nothing to the imagination! Which is good, because I haven't got an imagination! Everything I do is a repeat! I took over my stage mom's retired super-identity, and I stole another character's sloppy blue seconds! Of course, being the second Silk Speculum has its advantages! Like my cushy government job taking care of my nuclear-powered boyfriend! It's a good gig! He's got a great body, and he tastes like BooBerry cereal!



Oof! Yowch! Ack! The broker who sold me this apartment emphasized the spectacular skyline view. Screw that! Starting tomorrow, it's one-story ranch houses for me! That's assuming I'm lucky enough to land on something soft! Mine has been a life of rape, war, mutilation, abandonment, and remorseless, nihilistic cruelty! The sad part is, it all ended much too soon! On my way down, if I'm lucky, I may get one last chance to punch a pigeon in the nuts!

I've got determination! I've got ruthless will! The only thing I don't have? Eyeholes! Where the hell am I? As you can see, my mask is an endless variety of flowing stains. I have the same problem with my underpants!

Behind my back, people whisper that I'm a sociopathic, paranoid nut! But they'd never dare say those things directly to my blot! I admit I've got issues, though. I'm antisocial, I keep a secret journal, I trust no one, and I'm permanently pissed off at everybody! If I was growing boobies, I'd be a 13-year-old girl!

It's not often you see a buff, naked, blue bald man, except for Gay Pride parades! And, occasionally, in unlicensed Smurf porn! When I became Dr. Meatdanglin', I turned into the single most powerful entity in the free world! So suck it, Oprah! I can destroy armies! I can transport matter through space and time! I can create and manipulate energy! Apparently the only thing I can't do is zap myself a pair of tighty whities!

Because of my superpowers, time moves differently for me. I experience the past and future, all at once! I've always wondered what it would be like to feel time come to a complete and total stop. So far, I haven't found out. But I came very, very close, while waiting for a mattress delivery!

I'm Alan "Smithee" Moore, the award-winning writer of the original graphic novel! I'm known for my sense of artistic integrity! And Hollywood has always honored that integrity when adapting my other celebrated comic books to the big screen. Such as *From Hell*, *V for Vendetta*, *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*...and...and now this movie...dear God, I hope the Funnyman lands on me!

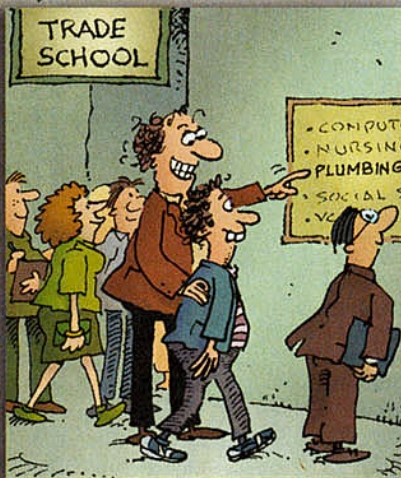




SERGIO ARAGONES

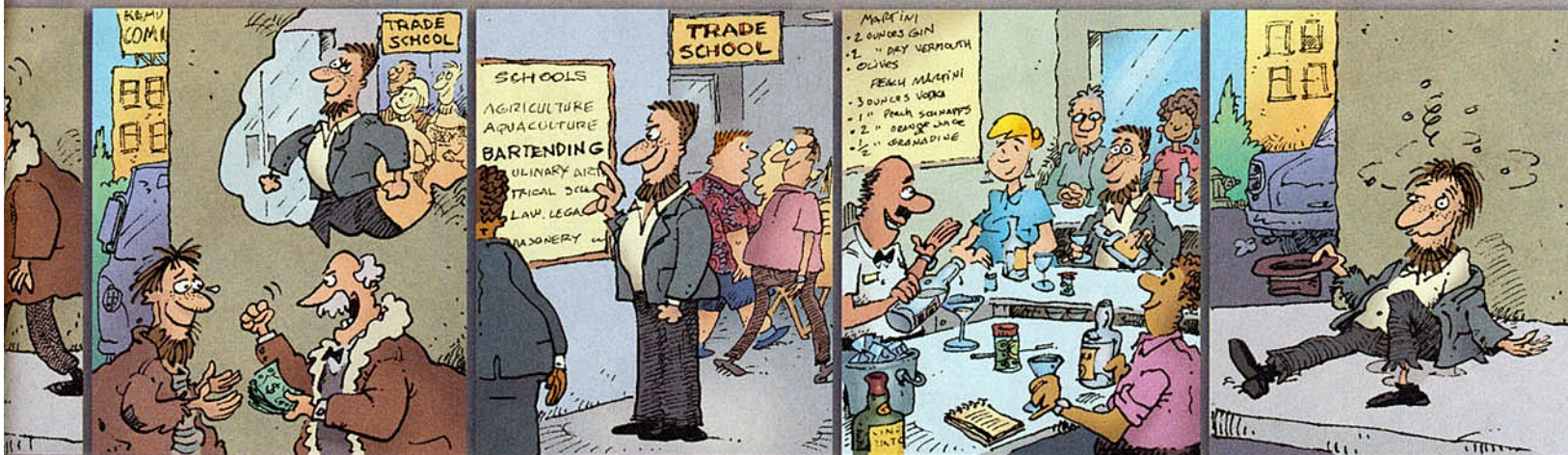
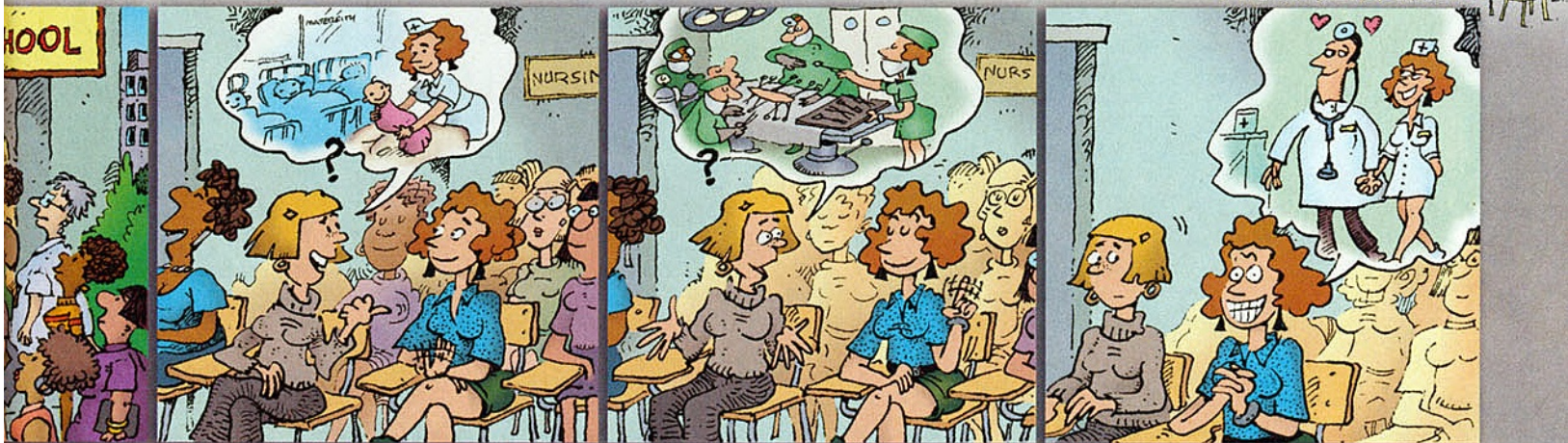
presents

# V MAD LOOK AT



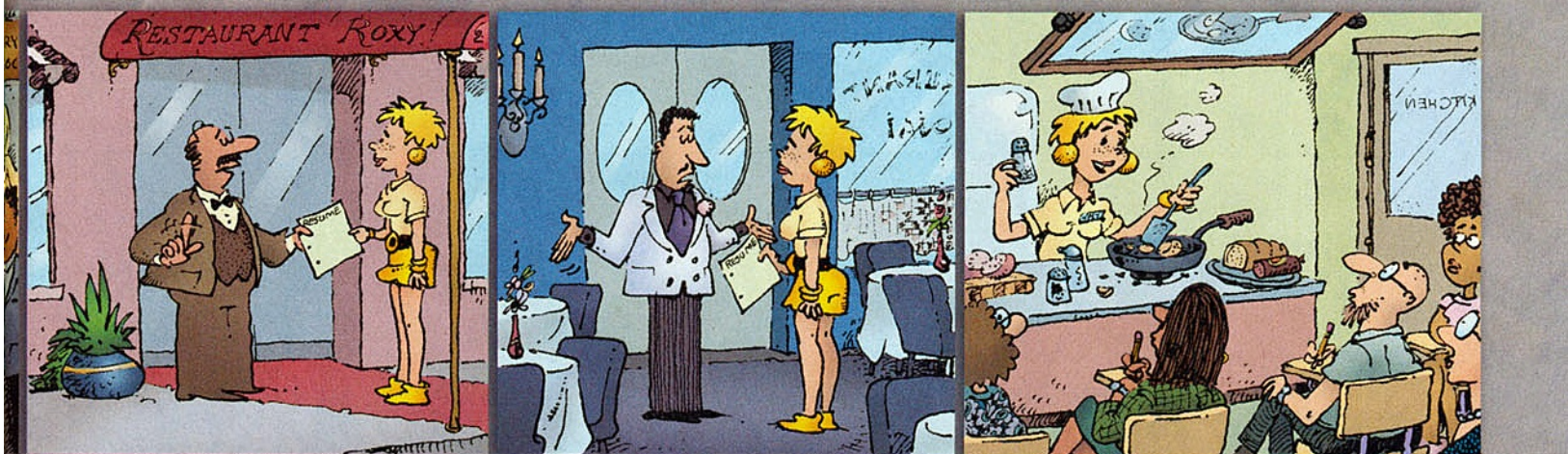


# TRADE SCHOOLS



WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES

COLORIST: TOM LUTH





# HUMANITY'S HOPE BEGINS WITH ONE MAN'S RETRIBUTION

RATING PENDING  
**RP**  
CONTENT RATED BY  
ESRB

May contain content  
inappropriate for children.  
Visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org) for  
rating information.







# RESISTANCE

## — RETRIBUTION —

[www.myresistance.net](http://www.myresistance.net)

The Chimera have taken Europe. And for Lt. James Grayson, the battle just got personal. The fight for mankind continues in the newest Resistance chapter, and it's only on the PSP® system. This action-shooter features unique 8-player multiplayer and an advanced third-person targeting system. Connect your PSP to your PS3™ with Resistance 2™ and unlock additional features to help give humanity a shred of hope. The Resistance is now everywhere.

**EVERYWHERE JUST GOT BETTER™**



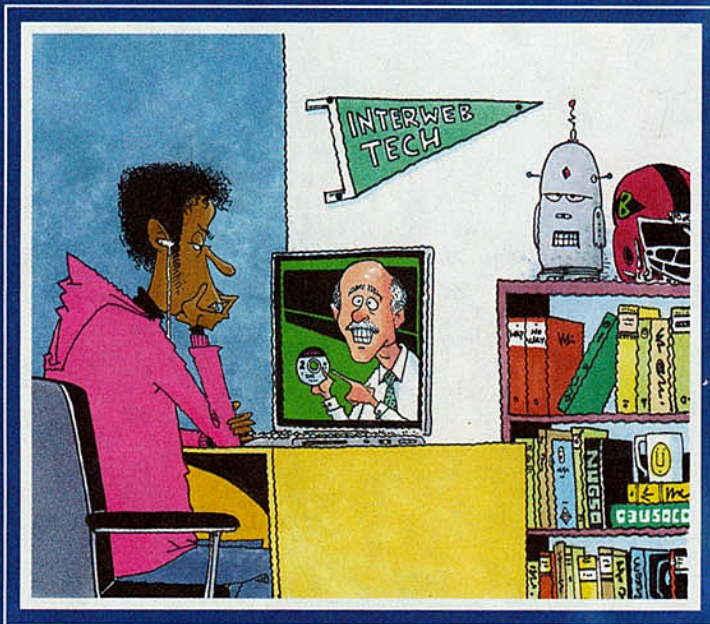
PlayStation Network



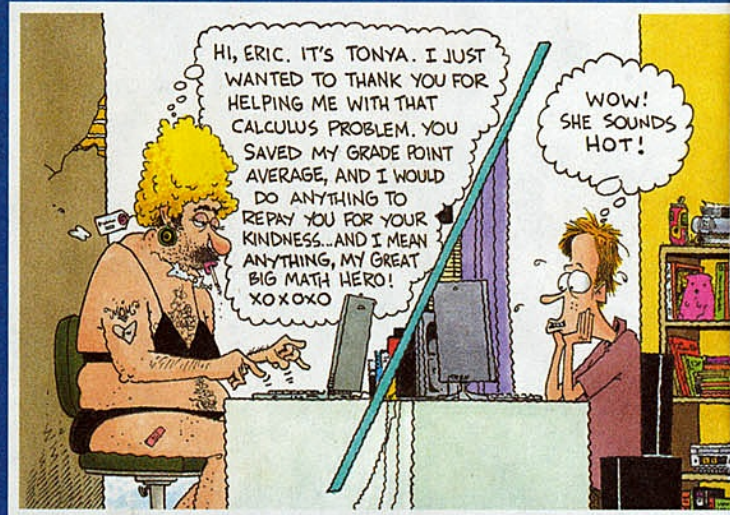


With the costs of a college education skyrocketing, more and more knowledge-thirsty Americans are turning to the internet in pursuit of a degree. While learning at your own pace on your own computer may seem like a good thing, there are a few downsides. So, before you settle on some cyber school that popped up while you were surfing for porn, check out this required reading list chronicling...

# The Decided an Online



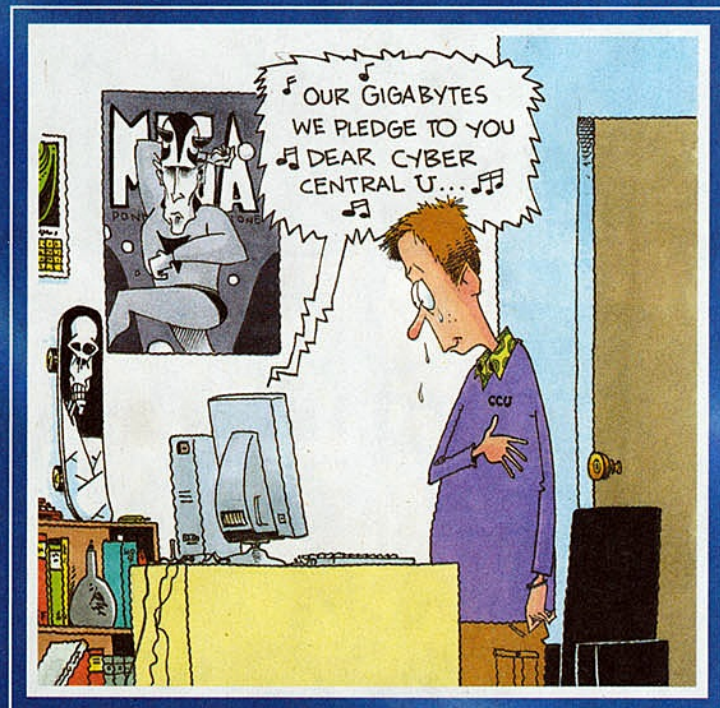
The only guest lecturer you've ever been exposed to is that "Video Professor" guy from infomercials



You date classmates at your own peril



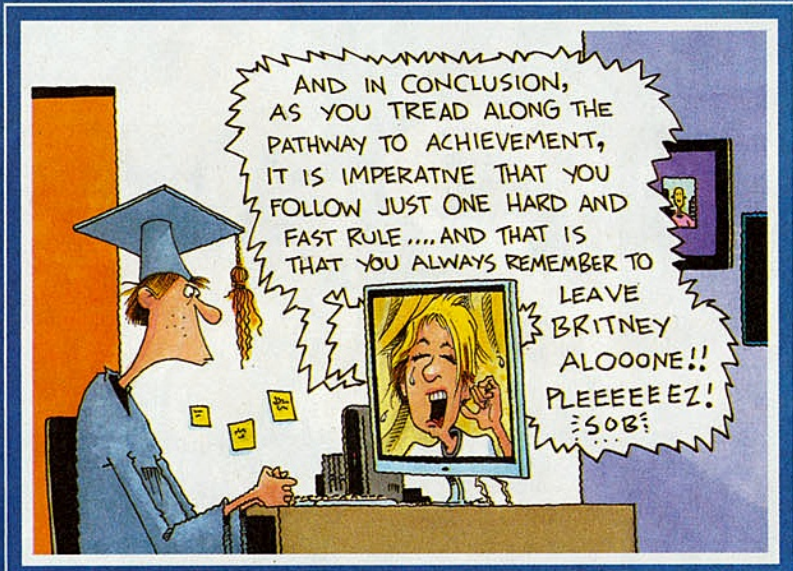
You get the same stupid question at every job interview



To hear your alma mater, you have to shell out 99 cents on iTunes



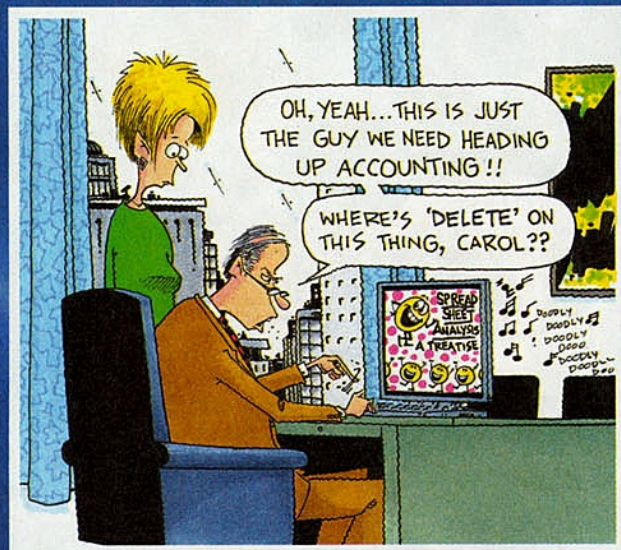
# Disadvantages of Education



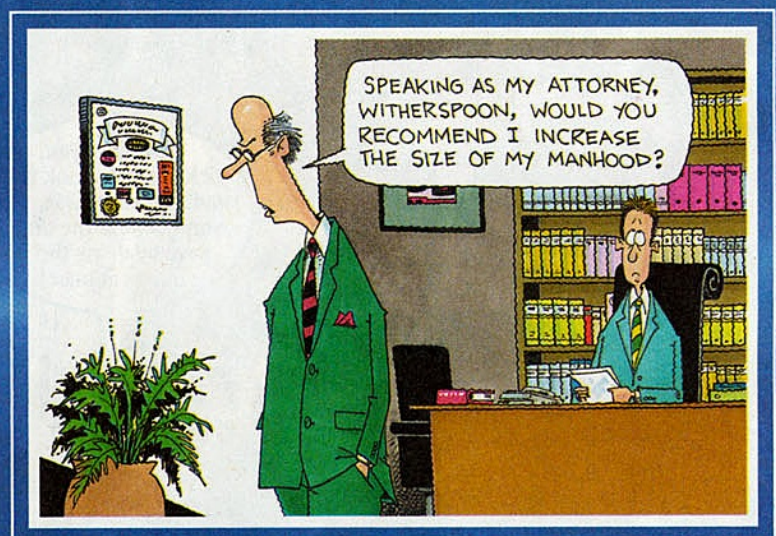
Come graduation time, your commencement speaker is whichever YouTube viral video celebutard happens to have the most views at the moment



After years of performing flawless surgery on 3-D computer models, you discover early in your residency that you can't stand the sight of blood



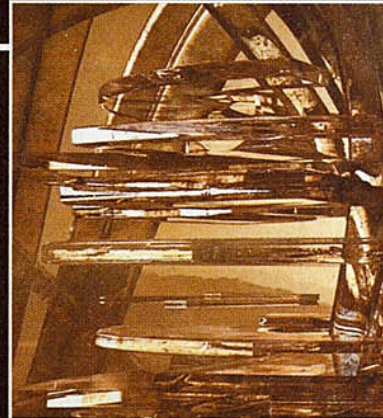
At some point you discover that a masters thesis full of little smiley emoticons doesn't open up any doors in the real world



Your framed diploma is replete with cheesy web ads



**GAAAAH!** This **walk-in microwave** hurts like hell — but it's the **only** way to make sure my **Hot Pocket** gets cooked all the way through!

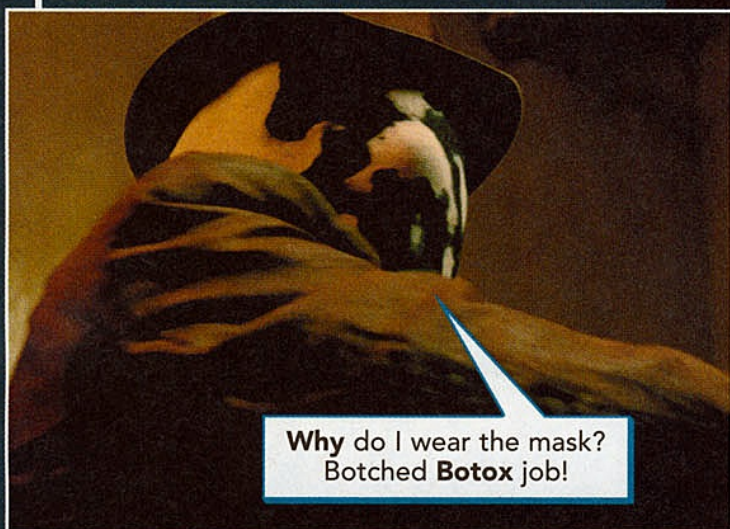


This happens **every time** a **Jonas Brothers** concert lets out!



PLEASE SIR, CAN I HAVE SOME MOORE? DEPT.

# MAD's UNHEROIC WAT



**Why** do I wear the mask?  
Botched **Botox** job!

Whatever you do,  
**don't eat the**  
**Salisbury steak!!!**



**Frickin' Al Roker**  
**never** said anything  
about **this**  
in his **forecast!**





Wow — and you got it all at IKEA, huh?



If anyone has a **Sharpie**, doodle in some **eyes** for me, please.



I just love rainy days — there's never **anyone** on the **jungle gym**! Wheee!

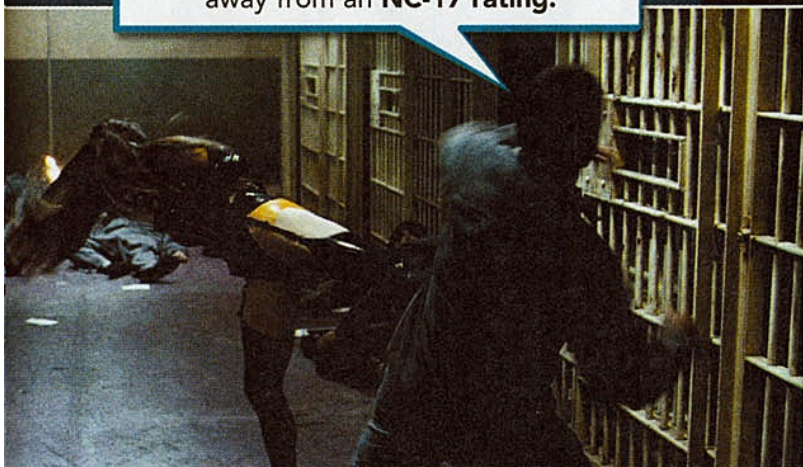


Don't even get me started on what a **bitch** the **digital TV conversion** is going to be...



# CHMEN OUTTAKES

Geez, a **hot chick** in spandex **beating the hell out of** a bunch of guys in a **prison**...this is one **oiled midget** away from an **NC-17** rating.



Good thing **DC Comics** also owns **Batman** — otherwise, they'd **sue** my Owl-ass back to the **Stone Age**!







From the dawn of man there have been countless tales of wonder and awe passed from generation to generation, but none of the impact, grandeur and raw primal power of...

# THE STORY OF DEATHBED

There once was a donkey with powerful emotions which were mysteriously linked to those who were at the end of their lives.

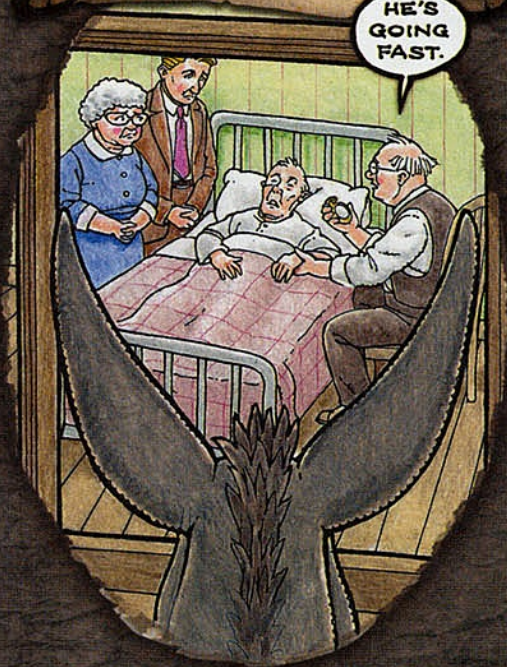
HE'S GOING FAST.

WHERE (SOB) DID THIS (SOB) ANIMAL COME FROM?

DON'T KNOW (SNIFF SOB SNIFF), BUT IT SEEMS PRETTY UPSET ABOUT DAD.

HE'S ... HE'S GONE. I'M SORRY.

But whenever someone died, the donkey would go into what would come to be known as a "rage of sorrow."



But the deathbed donkey could not be fooled.

HE'S NOT DEAD, SO THERE'S NO REASON TO START KICKING THE PLACE APART. OKAY? SEE, HE'S ALIVE...

HE'S OUTTA CONTROL!

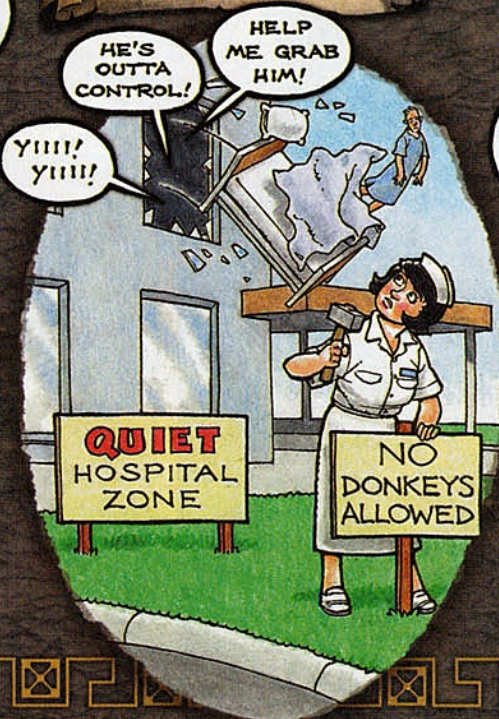
HELP ME GRAB HIM!

Yuu!! Yuu!!

Soon the Donkey seemed to be turning up everywhere.

IS MY HUSBAND GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT? IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO?

ER, PUT IT THIS WAY: YOU MIGHT WANT TO PUT AWAY YOUR GOOD CHINA.





# DONKEYY...AND THE RAGE OF SORROW

As if he blamed himself for the death...

HEY! CALM DOWN! GEEZ, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HIM!

I THINK IT'S GOT SOME DEATH AND ANGER ISSUES TO WORK OUT. THAT'S ONE CRAZY SENSITIVE DONKEY!

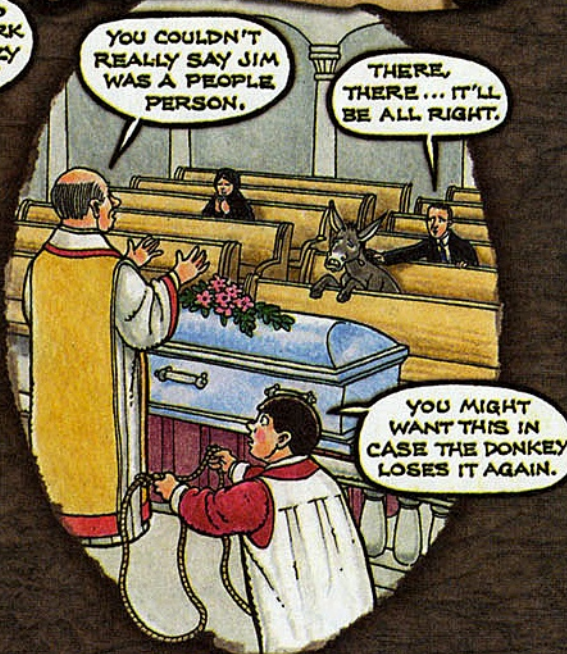


The word spread: there was a donkey that truly cared if people lived or died. And he went to every funeral he could. Even the unpopular ones.

YOU COULDN'T REALLY SAY JIM WAS A PEOPLE PERSON.

THERE, THERE... IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

YOU MIGHT WANT THIS IN CASE THE DONKEY LOSES IT AGAIN.



People began to believe that the mysterious donkey knew things no one else did.

BEAT IT, BEAST! THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME! I JUST HAVE A LITTLE COLD (SNIFF). QUIT FOLLOWING ME!



Though some people welcomed the donkey's genuine sympathy, many more did not.

PUT THE BODY BACK IN THE HEARSE!

OH NO! IT'S THAT INSANE DONKEY AGAIN!

HURRY! WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!

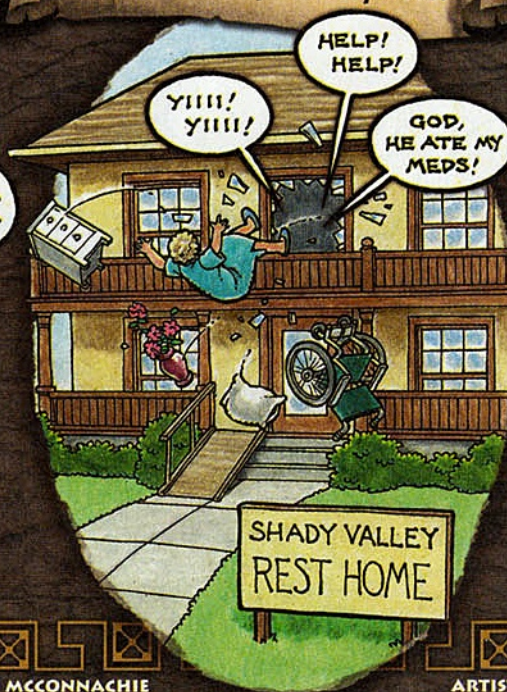


Wherever the terminal and infirm were facing their last hours, Deathbed Donkey would find them, weep uncontrollably...and then kick the place to pieces.

HELP! HELP!

YIII! YIII!

GOD, HE ATE MY MEDS!



And so he travels across this great land chasing ambulances, visiting hospitals and saying to us all in his own special way, "I Love You. Please don't die! I really mean it!"







At every press conference, in every sport, we hear the same tripe over and over. Players and coaches yak mindlessly about "focusing," "executing," "bringing their 'A' game," and (GAK!) "giving 110%." Don't these brain-dead millionaires have anything more to say? Well actually, they do! Check out these...

# UNABRIDGED SPORTS

**I'M  
TAKING IT ONE  
GAME AT A TIME...**

BECAUSE IF I THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH OF THIS PITIFUL SEASON IS LEFT, I'LL WANT TO GOUGE OUT MY EYES WITH A LOBSTER FORK!

**I TAKE FULL  
RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THE LOSS...**

BECAUSE I FIGURE, WHAT THE HELL - YOU DOUCHE-BAGS IN THE PRESS ARE GOING TO CRUCIFY ME ANYWAY!

**I WOULD  
NEVER USE A  
BANNED SUBSTANCE...**

WITHOUT FIRST BEING 100% SURE THAT I COULD ACE THE PISS-TEST!

**EVEN  
THOUGH WE PLAY  
THE SAME POSITION,  
WE'RE ROOTING FOR  
EACH OTHER...**

TO SUFFER A CAREER-ENDING INJURY!

**IT'S NOT  
ABOUT THE MONEY...**

IT'S ABOUT THE DIAMOND BRACELETS, GOLD-PLATED HUMMERS AND BRAZILIAN BIKINI MODELS I CAN GET WITH THE MONEY!

**I CAN'T  
WAIT TO GET OFF  
THE DISABLED LIST...**

ALTHOUGH GETTING PAID MILLIONS TO SIT ON MY DUMPER AND DRINK GATORADE HASN'T BEEN TOO BAD!



# CLICHÉS



**I LOVE THIS CITY SO MUCH...**

THAT I RENT IN THE SUBURBS  
AND SPEND THE OFF-SEASON  
ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF  
THE COUNTRY!

**I WANT  
TO WIN A  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
FOR THE FANS...**

SO THE JERKS WILL FINALLY  
QUIT BITCHING ABOUT ME  
ON SPORTS-TALK  
RADIO!

**THIS TEAM IS  
MULTI-FACETED...**

WE'VE GOT A FULL RANGE OF  
WHINERS, UNDERACHIEVERS  
AND DANGEROUSLY  
UNSTABLE FELONS!

**LONG  
ROAD TRIPS ARE  
ALWAYS TOUGH...**

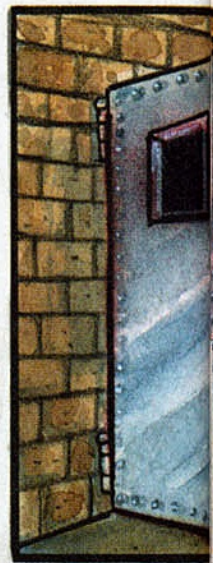
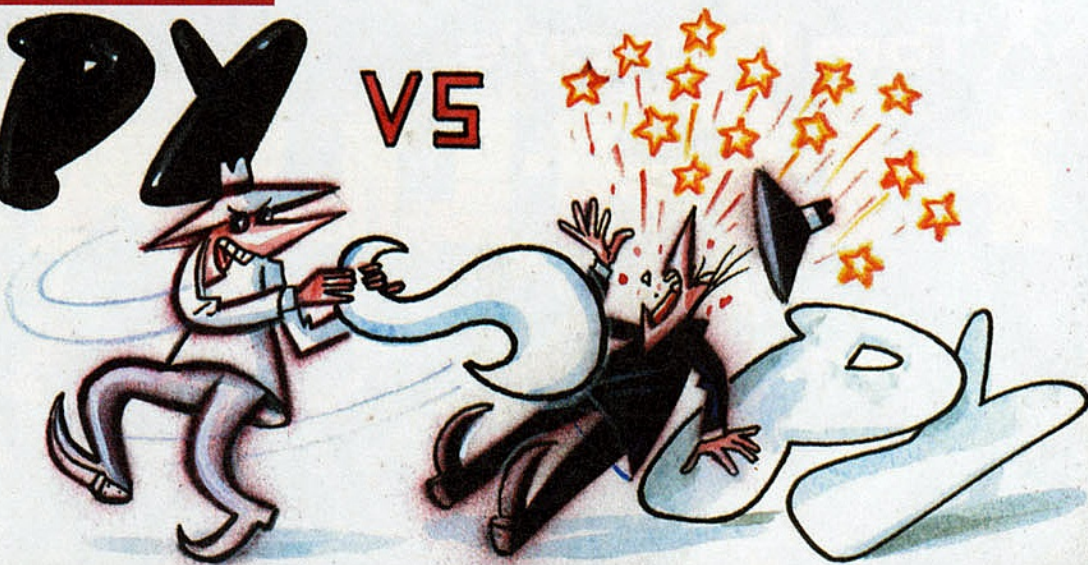
SINCE I CAN BARELY KEEP  
STRAIGHT WHICH BRAINLESS  
GROUPE I'M SUPPOSED TO  
BE CHEATING ON MY  
WIFE WITH!

**WITHOUT  
THE FANS, I'D  
BE NOTHING...**

JUST LIKE  
THEM!

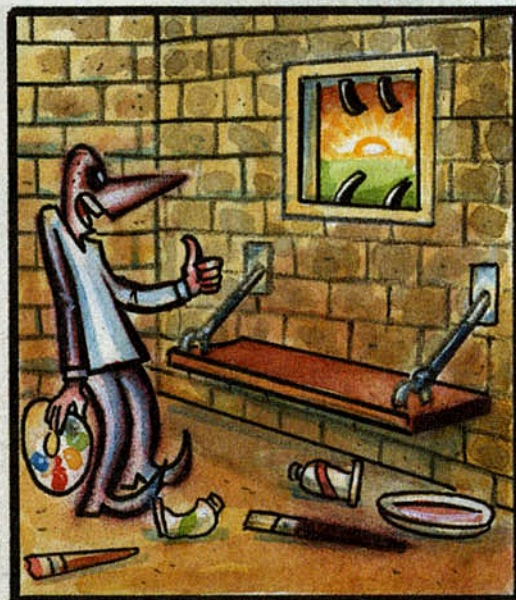
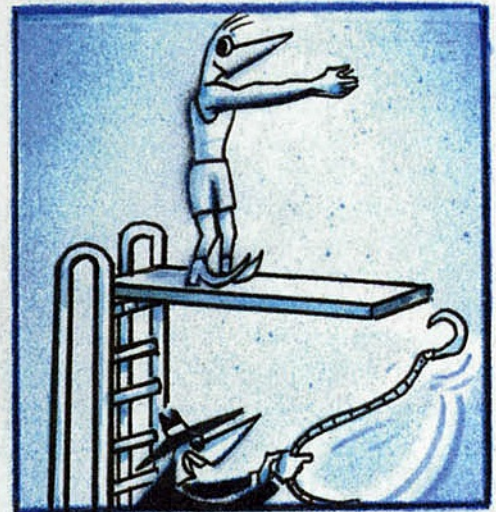


# SPY VS





# SPY VS SPY







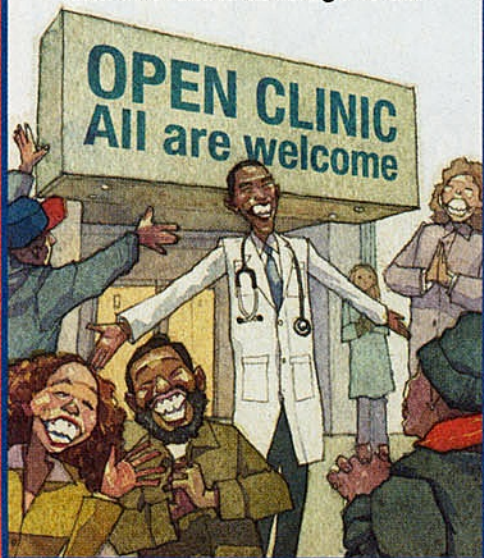
Barack Obama made history in last year's election. And now he's poised to make more history, with a sweeping platform of change. Or is he? Because if there's one thing that our new leaders find out **REAL** fast, it's that optimism is a non-renewable energy source. And so, it may not be long before our great nation's eternal, unspoken promise unfolds before our eyes: that every child, no matter what their race, can one day grow up to be a disrespected, hobbled failure of a President. Quickly! Before the honeymoon screeches to a halt, let's take one last nostalgic look back at Obama's ambitious plans for a shiny new America as we assess...

# PRESIDENT OBAMA

## THE PROMISE vs. THE REALITY

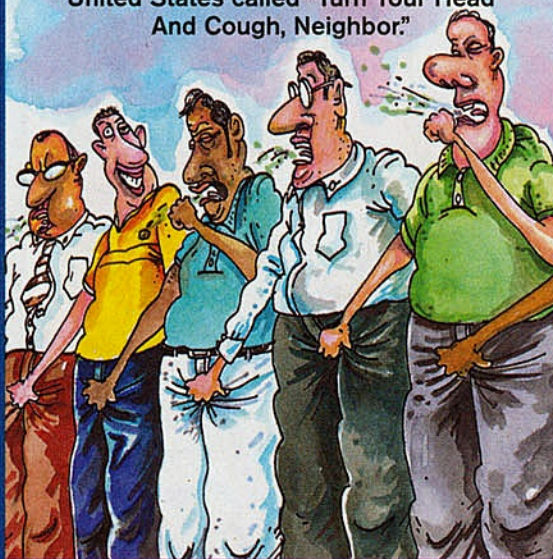
### OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Create a fair universal health care system that provides accessible and affordable coverage to all.



### WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

Organize a human chain across the continental United States called "Turn Your Head And Cough, Neighbor."



### OBAMA PROMISED TO...

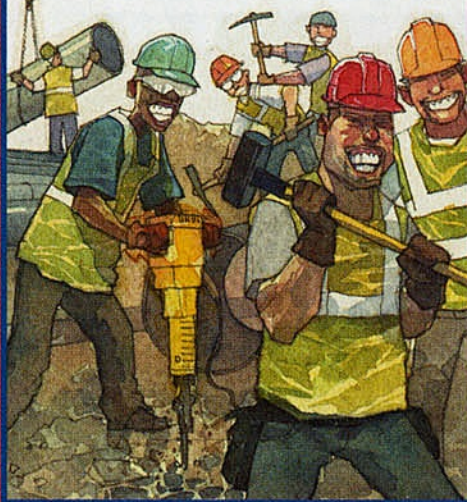
Bring all sides together, and reach across the aisle in a spirit of bipartisan cooperation.



WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

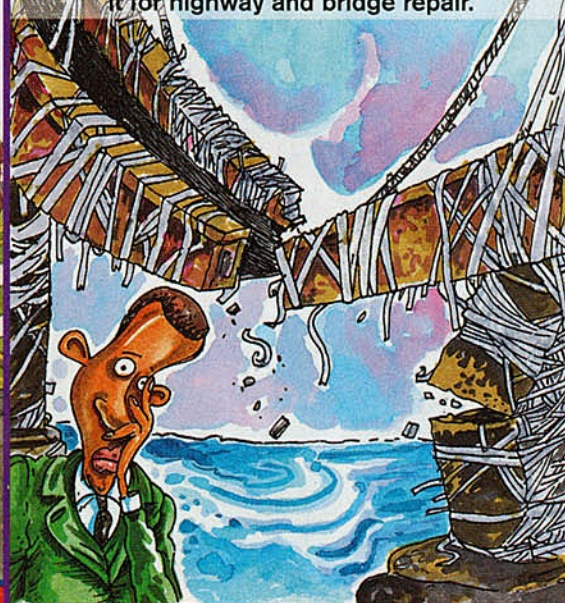
### OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Implement a comprehensive regional development agenda that strengthens our crumbling infrastructure.



### WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

Take all that leftover duct tape from Homeland Security's old orange terror alerts and use it for highway and bridge repair.



### OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Prevent further melting of the ice caps from global warming and save the species dependent on them for survival.





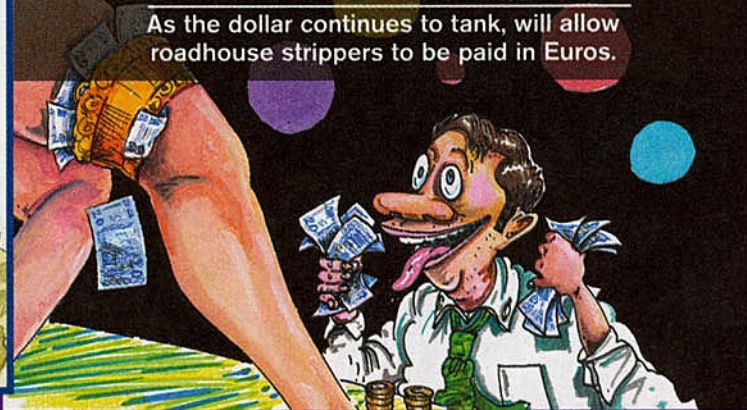
## OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Champion the right of equal pay for equal work and to protect women from discriminatory economic injustice.



## WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

As the dollar continues to tank, will allow roadhouse strippers to be paid in Euros.



## WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

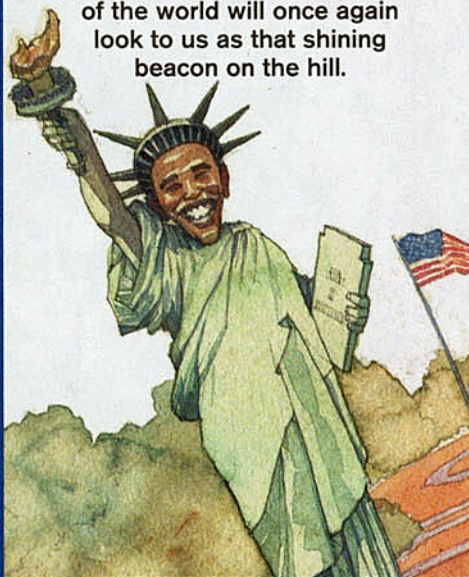
Can probably get Joe Lieberman to only be a douche 80% of the time.



ARTISTS: LEONARDO RODRIGUEZ AND KEVIN POPE

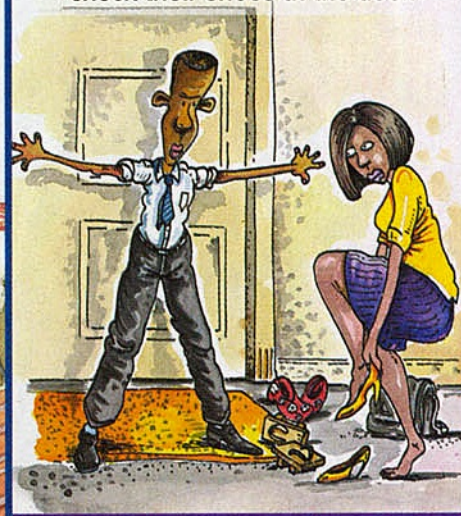
## OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Restore America's prestige around the world, so that the citizens of the world will once again look to us as that shining beacon on the hill.



## WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

Make all foreign reporters check their shoes at the door.



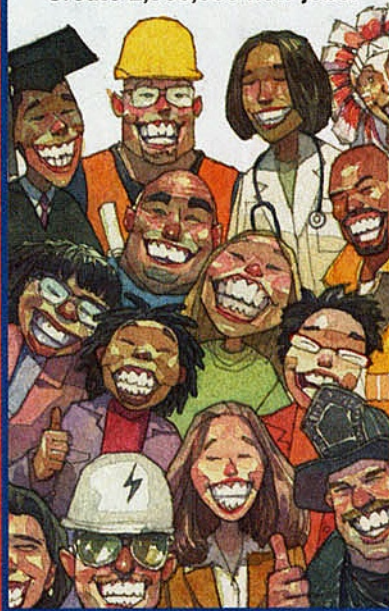
## WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

Send Michael Phelps to the Arctic Circle to give the polar bears emergency swimming lessons.



## OBAMA PROMISED TO...

Create 2,500,000 new jobs.



## WHAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH...

There will be 2,500,000 new jobs, but they'll all be about evicting everybody else from their homes and repossessing their cars.

